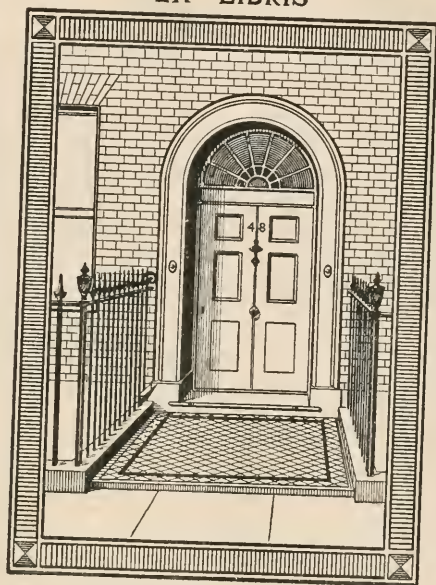


THE
HOUSEHOLD
NARRATIVE
OF
CURRENT EVENTS
1851.

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THE DICKENS HOUSE

THE
HOUSEHOLD NARRATIVE

OF
CURRENT EVENTS,

(FOR THE YEAR 1851,)

BEING
A MONTHLY SUPPLEMENT TO HOUSEHOLD WORDS,

CONDUCTED BY
CHARLES DICKENS.

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THE

HOUSEHOLD NARRATIVE

OF CURRENT EVENTS.

1851.]

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THE THREE KINGDOMS.

THE second half of the Nineteenth Century having at length begun, men are very prone to ask themselves what new or hopeful prospect it opens with. What with the daily advances of science, and the applications of the arts to the purposes of life, in all that relates to material progress the answer can hardly be doubtful. We have built up two great empires during that part of the century which has passed away, in compensation for the empire we lost at the close of the century preceding : but a range of far wider dominion stretches out for days that are to come, in the triumphs of future acquisition held forth by scientific discovery ; in the steamboat, the railway, the telegraph, the telescope ; in the steady march of astronomy, chemistry, electricity, and steam ; in the wondrous development of practical energy in every department of practical utility. It is neither possible nor desirable that politics and morals should keep pace with the consummation of physical change thus altering the face of the earth : but even in this direction the world does not seem likely to come to any sudden stand. If no very new discoveries have been made of late, several very ancient fallacies have at least been exploded. The period may hereafter be emphatically remembered as that in which a great many valuable things were *found out*. It has been found out, for instance, that a King Mob enthroned by street barricades may be quite as egregious an imposture as a King Louis Philippe crowned by the same process. It has been found out that when a people lose their wits, the best form of government is a military bedlam ; but that when they recover their senses in the smallest degree, soldiers are worse than useless in the business of governing them. The abominable absurdity of such phrases as German unity and American equality has been found out. Mr. Hudson and Mr. Feargus O'Connor have been found out. The general unwholesomeness of dirt (marvellous to say) has been found out. Puseyism has been found out. And, to conclude, it has been found out that what Popery was in the fourteenth it would fain claim to be in the nineteenth century ; and free states have been put upon their guard against it.

Nevertheless his Holiness Pio Nono exhibits certainly no sign of retreat at the approach of our British parliament. He has issued a fresh brief under the seal of the Fisherman, severing the united sees of Cloyne and Ross into two separate sees of Ross and Cloyne, and appointing one of the worst of the Irish bigots to rule over the new see. He has also clapped poor harmless Mr. de Vericour into the Index Expurgatorius. Contemporaneously with which events the Irish Protestant bishops have been loudly complaining of their brother bishops in England for not having invited them to take part in the recent Episcopal protest against such papal aggression. They declare that the Church of the United Kingdom being one and indivisible, no separate branch of it ought to move alone ; they insinuate broadly the suspicion that it is the fact of the Irish branch being the most exposed to danger which had thus impelled the English prelates to get out of its company ; and they avow, for the same reason, their own resolve of cleaving all the more closely to the main trunk, "with which it is our happiness and *we hope our safety* to be identified." This is frank ; and very accommodating, as well as soothing, was his grace of Canterbury's answer ; but nevertheless an impression prevails that the omission was not wholly accidental, and that in protesting against the Roman Catholic Church for its insolent encroachment on Protestant England, it was best to keep out of sight that Protestant Church which has so long been a grievance and unjust burthen on Roman Catholic Ireland. If the Protestant faith could have been diffused by the maintenance of such an establishment, it might have been well to keep it up even exclusively as a fortress militant for the gradual subjection of Rome. But the direct contrary has been the result. It has long been useless, even as a barrack. Gold and iron may be, as Milton calls them, the nerves of war ; but, plentifully applied as they have been in the case of the Irish Church, they have certainly not proved to be the sinews of religion. Protestantism has constantly dwindled under the evil auspices of a system which has spoken less from the altar in accents of peace and charity than in powder and shot out of mouths of iron. Such an eternal trouble, indeed, has this Establishment been to the state ; so fatal to the religion it was meant to promote ; so much has its manifest injustice scandalised Christianity, scared away tranquillity, and wasted and consumed its own congregations ; that, viewing all these effects, and seeing how nothing so much as Popery has been promoted by such so-called enthusiastic Protestantism, it would have taxed the serpentine cunning of the school of Loyola to devise a more subtle or successful scheme for retaining Ireland within the pale of Rome. A more effective imprecation under cover of a pious aspiration could not have been invented by the Reverend Doctor Biber himself, who curses so readily and zealously ; and who has just given fresh proof of the quality of his Christianity by denouncing every form of worship but that of the Protestant communion, and declaring his utter abhorrence of all religious sentiments except those of the Church of England.

This curious sample of Protestant Popery was exhibited on the occasion of a meeting of the highflyers at Freemasons' Hall, when the Church of England was declared to be in such a condition of "torpid paralysis," so "deserted and crippled," so "degraded and impotent," that nothing but Convocation could restore her ; and a very pretty sample of the sort of Debating Club so invoked for the salvation of the Church was this meeting of its advocates. The means were noisy discussion, bitter altercation, unscrupulous banning and proscribing ; and all for ends no better than the erection of a sort of Protestant Holy Office and Index Expurgatorius. The "censuring of books and persons," and the enforcement of "spiritual discipline," are alone, forsooth, according to these orators, what will save the Church. It is the vulgar cry for power—more power ; when the remedy sorely needed is peace—more peace. The struggle has been long enough in progress

between the tendency on the one hand to contract the ritual in every direction but that of Rome, and on the other to bring within its embrace every form of spiritual Christianity. "I wish," said the good bishop Shirley, "to see the doors of the Church made as wide as the doors of Heaven." "I utterly abhor," cries Doctor Biber, "all religious sentiments, except what I declare to be those of the Church of England." This is the issue broadly put; and can any one believe the final determination of it doubtful, who believes in the tolerant origin of the Church, and has taken part in her simple comprehensive services? Show me the Christian who would fain get to heaven *alone*, exclaimed the pious Richard Baxter, and I will show you one who will never get there.

Greatly is it therefore to be deplored, in a state of feeling so rapidly approaching to extremes, that the Archbishop of Canterbury should have publicly deprecated any such revision of the prayer-book as would have a tendency to shut out Romish agreement, and embrace more largely Protestant difference. He does so on the ground that it is not a work to be undertaken in a time of excitement, when the settlement would be in accordance with one of two extreme views, and thus tend to give a triumph to one over the other. But men do not think of remedies when there is no complaint; and what in effect is such an opinion propounded from the highest place in the Church, but an encouragement to the prime movers of Tractarian disaffection to continue their agitation and disturbance. Nor truly do they seem disinclined. "Dear Dr. Pusey" passes half his time in writing letters to prove that he is anything but Puseyite; and hardly a day passes that does not exhibit some new move in a Jesuitical and quite desperate struggle to keep Mr. Bennett at St. Barnabas. Correspondences between Mr. Bennett's churchwardens and Mr. Bennett's bishop, showing a wondrous change of tone since his Holiness of Pimlico put the Premier to the question, have been oozing out in the *Times* continually. The *in terrorem* is dropped, the *ad misericordiam* takes its place; and the bishop is piteously reminded of the "deprivation of the means of subsistence," which perseverance in his resolve of accepting Mr. Bennett's resignation will entail on the unhappy minister. To which, the bishop, having fortified himself by prayer, responds, that not finding in the churchwardens' statement any suggestion calculated to change or modify his opinion of the principles which Mr. Bennett maintains, and on which he has declared himself unalterably determined to conduct the services in his churches, he, the Bishop, must persist in accepting his resignation. Whereupon the churchwardens, with a kind of blunt humility ask the bishop what he means by "principles," and the bishop warily declines reply. Then, after a few days' interval, steps forward Mr. Bennett himself, full of pious horror at the notion that *he* should be thought capable of evading his own voluntary proffer to resign. His bishop had pronounced him guilty of unfaithfulness to the Church of England, therefore he must resign. Is it conceived possible that he would take advantage of any point of law to make a bishop amenable to the state, to drag a bishop within the civil jurisdiction? Far from him be the profane thought of such spiritual disobedience. To be sure, the same objection would not apply to the dragging even of a bishop within Courts *Ecclesiastical*; but it was not for Mr. Bennett to suggest such a thing. Morally, he is under pledge to his bishop; and if it is sought to make a legal question of that moral obligation, it was not for Mr. Bennett to do it. Neither was it for Mr. Bennett, however, to obstruct the zeal of his churchwardens; and that they, therefore, may "pursue any further course in the matter which they may deem advisable," he will hold over his resignation till the 25th of March.

Such is faithfully the substance of these curious letters, from which any one who would study the art of at once keeping and evading a promise, and blarneying and bamboozling a bishop, may derive valuable hints. It would, nevertheless, have been well that the instruction should not have come from such pre-eminently holy men, who are not, as in their judgments other men almost universally are, insensible to the higher ethics of religion and morality; irreverently regardless of episcopal authority, and impatient of that stringent discipline which is the very life of the Church. For one must confess, that, applied to the ordinary affairs of life, the policy of Mr. Bennett would have marvellously resembled the morality of a Tartuffe grafted on the practice of an Old Bailey attorney.

It is a gratifying contrast to turn to another class of ministers of the Church, who have come spiritedly forward in Manchester with a proposition for the establishment of schools on a large and liberal foundation. It is very possible that this plan has originated in fears, caused by the success of the National Public School Association, that the conduct of the bigoted party in the Church may end at last in some total exclusion of the Church element from the public education of the people. The basis of the new scheme is that of the National Association, its most characteristic feature is that of a general local rate, and it is no doubt in the nature of a compromise between what is called "secular" and mixed education, churchmen and non-churchmen. But the compromise is at least statesmanlike and bold. By adoption of a general rate it rests upon a large popular basis; its admission of lay control is not less valuable; and its inclusion of free schools in which a daily reading of the Scriptures is to be provided, but no special religious creed or formula taught, distinctly affirms the principle in educational efforts which churchmen have been most reluctant to sanction, and towards the full acceptance of which their co-operation is at present most valuable. But the scheme is in two parts—the one for rendering existing schools more efficient, the other for establishment of new schools where voluntary efforts have been insufficient; and it is objected to on the ground that employment of a general rate for existing schools would tax the dissenter for support of what he conscientiously disapproves. There is, however, no devisable scheme into which some part of this objection does not creep; and the present plan by no means proposes to dispense with those voluntary contributions by which existing schools are maintained, but simply to strengthen and complete such efforts. The evil, incident to the proposition, seems to us accidental and not great; the good, enormous and vital. It encourages individual effort; it admits the just interference of the state; it invites the large and liberal control of laymen; it respects the principles of every sect; it can offend only the prejudices of any. Above all we think it to be immediately practicable, which is not to be said of any other similar project.

Let but the experiment be made. Once put to trial, we believe that all which is doubtful in it would soon drop off, leaving only its advantages; and that the blessing of such a result would be quite appreciable in future arrangements and discussions. For this is the question of questions. It includes Socialism, and Chartism, and all the other *isms* that are dangerous; and is the only conceivable method of finally determining the doubt which is now so sadly disturbing Downing Street, of how finally to deal with the Pope and his Cardinals.

A legion of tracts and pamphlets that might be counted by hundreds have rushed vainly to the ministerial rescue. The doubt is as great and distressing as before Mr. Ridgway let them loose. The two great reviews have also entered the lists of religious controversy: and it is an odd exemplification of the probable effect of the coming discussion on political parties, that the *Quarterly* should be recommending the state to consent to a concordat, with a view to peace with Rome; while the *Edinburgh* is declaring with horror that no state ever signed a concordat without signing away some of its rights, and 'legalising usurpation to the advantage of Rome. When established old doctors thus change sides, what hope of agreement is there among people of no authority? Nevertheless it may be worth while to mention what a third doctor remarks in one of the pamphlets—probably the only one worth separate mention. Doctor Twiss declares conclusively that the Papal Brief constituting the new hierarchy entails in one of its provisions a direct violation of the statute law of the land in reference to the see of St. David's; and that in its general object of creating sees for bishops in ordinary, within the dominions of an independent sovereign without the consent of the crown, it involves a departure from long established practice which in such matters constitutes the law. The law therefore, it is presumable, will have to apply itself to these points; and it is more than probable that a fourth (this time a Right Reverend) doctor has hit accidentally, yet precisely on the head, the legislative nail now shaping in the forge of St. Stephen's, when he tells one of his "dear Mr. Archdeacons" in his diocese of Durham that it may probably be necessary to apply some restrictions to the future introduction and circulation of Papal bulls in this island, to forbid the existence of monastic institutions strictly so called, and to prohibit the assumption of episcopal titles conferred by Rome and deriving their names from any locality in the kingdom. It would not be unsafe to predict that somewhat after this design will be the plan of ministerial legislation against popery in the forthcoming session of the British Imperial Parliament; and that great will be the difficulty, and manifold the discontents, in legislating even thus far.

NARRATIVE OF POLITICS.

THE leaders of the Irish *Tenant League* having abandoned the idea of holding county meetings in Down and Antrim, the plan of the campaign underwent revision, and it was agreed to hold district meetings in various portions of the two counties. The first of these took place on the 30th December. The attendance was very thin, and in Newtownards, part of the northern estates of the Marquis of Londonderry, the proceedings did not present a single feature of novelty. Mr. Sharman Crawford was unable to attend, but wrote a letter expressive of his views on the question, which fully coincided with the objects of the meeting.

The Irish Poor-law Commissioners have dismissed the Ennistymon Board of Guardians, on the grounds of *General bad management and repeated acts of inhumanity to the paupers*. A shocking instance of the conduct of these Guardians will be found in the "Household Narrative" for October last, page 224.

The Great Meeting of the Ulster *Protestant Association*, on the 2nd, from which Irish Protestants expected such a vigorous and influential demonstration against the Roman aggression, proved a failure in point of numbers: an extremely thin attendance throughout the day is apologetically admitted, and the Northern Whig ascribes the circumstance mainly to the fact that in Ireland the agitation has been too exclusively clerical. The resolutions were in character, and passed of course.

The *Encumbered Estates Commissioners* carry on their proceedings in Dublin with much activity. Within the week ending on the 2nd instant absolute orders for sale were made in eleven cases, and conditional orders in twelve others. Further orders for the payment of money out of the proceeds of sales were made in fifty-five matters, the amount paid being 29,128*l.*, which, with 349,665*l.* previously paid, makes the total sum distributed by the commissioners 378,793*l.* During the same week eighteen new petitions have been filed, in fifteen of them the owners being also the petitioners, and the total number of petitions filed in the court to the 2nd instant is 1,477. The fresh batch of petitions present the same melancholy array of enormous liabilities and inadequate assets exhibited by the vast majority of those which have hitherto been brought under the operation of this court.

A numerous meeting, on the subject of the *Duty on Paper*, was held at the London Tavern on the 2nd instant. Mr. Cowan, M.P., presided, and, in his opening speech, forcibly sketched the oppressive limitations which clog the manufacturer—

"At the beginning of the century there were twenty-seven excisable articles; of which there remain but six or seven at the present time. Of these there is but one article which bears on the face of it *prima facie* evi-

dence of the duty having been charged by means of the label fastened on it: that article is paper. The absence of this label subjects the manufacturer to a tax of 10*l.*; it used to be 100*l.* There is but one article subject to detention for a single moment after the duty has been charged: that article is paper. Yet one would think that it should be the other way, in consequence of paper bearing the label on the face of it. But the contrary is the fact, for the Excise obliges the manufacturer to keep his paper twenty-four hours before he can send it out; and this time is calculated from the period when the officer visits his work. The process of charging the paper is also a peculiar one, for the paper label which is pasted on must be dry before the duty is charged. When this has to be done with regard to every description of paper and on every ream, and when moreover it has to be weighed and wrapped up by the officer, it imposes an amount of labour and consumes a quantity of time, which is very singular in this so-called free-trade country. If so much time were uselessly expended in the manufacture of any other articles—such as gloves, for instance—it would not be allowed to continue a week, for the voice of the country would be instantly raised against it. It is because the paper-manufacturers are a small body scattered over the country, and are not concentrated in a particular locality like the manufacturers of Birmingham and Sheffield, that these unfair restrictions are allowed to continue. Mr. Cowan showed the meeting some paper made in Gloucestershire from wheat-straw; the cost of the raw material was 2*s.* a hundredweight, and the tax on the manufactured result is 14*s. 9d.* per hundredweight. Sir Robert Peel took off a duty on cotton which was only five-sixteenths or rather less than a third of a penny per pound; but here the tax is more than a penny-half-penny per pound; the tax is 700 or 800 per cent. on the original value of the article; it is therefore a tax on labour. In Paris, 30,000 females find employment in making paper boxes; so that in that metropolis small purchases are presented, not in white-brown paper, but in elegant little boxes; those boxes come into this country at 10 per cent. on their value, but if they were made in this country they would be taxed 200 per cent. on the value of the material." Mr. Cassell, a publisher, showed the injurious manner in which the tax affected cheap literature; he was publishing a history of England for the working classes, which was brought out in sixpenny volumes; and when the work was completed the tax paid to the Government would not be less than 200*l.* If the tax were repealed, it would enable the publishers of cheap literature to employ and pay the first authors of the day, and to issue their publications in a neat and handsome garb that would adorn the shelves of the working classes. He could tell them that there was nearly 300*l.* of taxation upon every impression

of the *Working Man's Friend*. It had been alleged that if the tax were taken off, the country would be flooded with the vilest publications: but his opinion was precisely the reverse, for he believed if the tax were taken off that the people of England would not be bamboozled with cant and balderdash; they would demand good and sound literature, and if it were given to them they would understand it. As it is they prefer the translation of French literature to our own bad and trashy writing. In his own case, he had given in the *Working Man's Friend* an opportunity to the working classes to write in that periodical for themselves; and the result had been, that 596 articles had been furnished by the working men of England in the course of ten months. He had not been able to insert the whole of those articles, but he had printed and published 130 of them, all of which had been contributed by blacksmiths, colliers, and almost all sorts of working men. To those men he had awarded prizes and 130 books in payment of their writing, and 130 volumes had been given away. In no case had he been called upon in the distribution for a low class of literature, but on the contrary for the very highest that could be commanded. It was evident, therefore, that if the working classes possessed a cheap and healthy literature they would buy their magazine or newspaper to read at home instead of going into all sorts of places to spend their money."

Mr. Holyoake moved, as an amendment, an addition to the original resolution, to the effect of adding the repeal of the newspaper stamp and advertisement duty to that of the duty on paper. Mr. Milner Gibson supported the enlarged proposition, which was put and carried by acclamation.

There have been several other meetings on the same subject in the provinces. In the Town Council of Birmingham, on the 7th, Alderman Baldwin moved the adoption of a petition to Parliament against the taxes on paper and advertisements, and the stamp-duty on newspapers; especially founding his case on the grievances in connexion with the paper-tax, which he himself as a manufacturer effectively pointed out. Mr. Baldwin stated that if the paper-tax were repealed, he alone could give employment to five hundred additional persons within twelve months. Mr. Charles Sturge seconded the motion, and spoke especially against the penny-stamp. Alderman Smith and Alderman Martineau opposed the motion, as more fitting for the consideration of the Chamber of Commerce. Alderman Muntz declared against the principle of giving up altogether the discussion of such subjects: the town of Birmingham pays a larger proportionate share of the paper-duty than any community in the empire. The motion was carried almost unanimously; Alderman Martineau and Mr. Cox alone holding up their hands against it.

There was a meeting of Yorkshire paper-manufacturers, at Leeds, on the same date, at which resolutions against the tax were unanimously passed.

The Prelates of the *Established Church in Ireland* have addressed a letter to the Archbishop of Canterbury complaining, that in the recent addresses of the English prelates to her Majesty, they designated themselves the archbishops and bishops "of the Church of England," in place of "the united Church of England and Ireland," according to the act of George the Third, uniting the Churches of England and Ireland into one Protestant establishment. The complainants say:—"We have painfully felt that, of late years, as well in legislating on ecclesiastical affairs as on many public occasions, a disposition has been manifested to regard the Irish provinces of the United Church as if they did not form an integral portion of the one Church of the nation. We are conscious that the Irish branch of the Church is peculiarly exposed to the attacks of its enemies; and we are on that account the more apprehensive of any step being taken which has a tendency, even in appearance, to dissociate our provinces and bishoprics from that great community with which it is our happiness, and, we hope, our safety, to be identified. We therefore not unnaturally fear the effect which may be produced by a movement on the part of our English brethren against a common adversary, in which they have not only acted without any concert or communication with us, but have styled themselves by a name

which would seem to intimate that they are Prelates of a separate Church from ours, and wish to appear so before her Majesty. We beg to assure your Grace, that, in submitting this statement to your consideration, we are not actuated by any wounded feeling of disappointment or of dissatisfaction; but we deem that we owe it to the Church in which we bear office, to guard, as far as is in our power, against a separation being made between the component parts of the National Church, which were most solemnly and authoritatively united together in one. We confidently hope that the form of designation employed in your address was adopted inadvertently, and not from a design to disclaim a connection with the provinces of Armagh and Dublin. And we trust that we may reckon on having the aid, the sympathy, and the prayers of the Archbishops and Bishops of the provinces of Canterbury and York in whatever difficulties and dangers may yet await our portion of the Church."—The Archbishop of Canterbury in his answer, dated the 31st of December, and addressed to the Archbishop of Armagh, says:—"I am anxious to assure your Grace, and my other Right Reverend brethren in Ireland, that this designation did not originate in any desire to represent ourselves as a separate body, but was employed solely because in the present instance 'the movement of the common adversary' was immediately directed against ourselves. It did not appear to any of the Bishops whom I had the opportunity of consulting, that we could properly invite the Irish Bishops to complain of an aggression which only affected the Church in England. At the same time, I am ready, for my own part, to acknowledge that the document would have been more correctly worded if it had been written in the name of the English Archbishops and Bishops of the United Church of England and Ireland. It would have been better to have indited an inharmonious sentence, than to have given ground for the apprehensions expressed in your Grace's letter. I will take an early opportunity of communicating the letter to my episcopal brethren, who at present are dispersed in their various dioceses. But I can venture to say, in their behalf, that we all consider the Irish branch of the United Church to be so closely identified with our own, that if one member suffers the other cannot fail to suffer with it; and that in all cases where co-operation is desirable or practicable, we shall be ready to act with your Grace and the other Irish prelates as an united body."

The *Irish Prelates* have since presented an address to the Queen, chiefly relating to the above subject. In conclusion they pray that, "whatever may be the defensive measures determined on for securing the National Church against injury, the two portions of it may not be regarded or treated as having separate interests, but that one and the same legislative protection may be extended to both branches of the Church in common."

A meeting of the lay members of the Church of England, in the districts of St. Paul's and St. Barnabas, in the parish of St. George's, Hanover Square, was held on the 8th, for the purpose of addressing the Bishop of London against the *Romish Practices* still carried on in those churches. Mr. J. G. Harris, the chairman, after going into the details of those Romanising practices, concluded by stating, that all of them were still carried out, save the lighting of candles, and it behoved them to request the Lord Bishop of London to at once exercise his authority in removing evils utterly repugnant to the true principles of Christianity. Mr. Freeth, in moving the adoption of an address to the Bishop of London, observed that the doctrines of Mr. Bennett had caused amongst his own family much unhappiness and estrangement. He moved an address, thanking the bishop for "the firm and decisive manner" in which he had persisted in his acceptance of Mr. Bennett's resignation; stating, that the ceremonies introduced by Mr. Bennett were still continued, with the exception of lighting the candles; and praying the bishop to restore "that pure and simple form of worship which is especially adapted to the capacity and understanding of the poor, and which has been supplanted by an excess of ritualism, by tones and gestures, by bowings and crossings, and by other mummeries of superstition." Several speakers warmly denied the charges against

Mr. Bennett, and one of them, Mr. Gibson, as a member of Mr. Bennett's congregation, regretted that so good a man should have been spoken of in such unchristian and bitter terms by persons professing themselves to be members of the Church of England. He had been a constant attendant at St. Barnabas, and he declared that he never witnessed what were called Romanising mummeries. The proceedings were repeatedly interrupted by noise and uproar, but ultimately the address was adopted by a large majority.

A letter from the Bishop of Durham, on the subject of the *Papal Aggression*, has been published. It is addressed to the Archdeacon of Lindisfarne, and indicates the measures which, in the writer's opinion, are called for at the present time. On this head the bishop says:—"I am persuaded that no wish exists generally for any measure but what self-defence requires. An outrageous attack has been made upon us; but I trust adequate means may be devised for our own security without disturbing the free exercise of religion by others or infringing their rights of conscience. It surely cannot be necessary to the maintenance of these great ends that a foreign potentate should be permitted to insult a great nation, trample upon the rights of the sovereign as secured by law, and disturb the peace and good order of the Established Church. In order to prevent such evils, it may be necessary to provide some restrictions upon the introduction and circulation of Papal bulls in this island; and to prohibit the assumption of episcopal titles conferred by Rome and deriving the name from any place in this country. It may also be desirable to forbid the existence of monastic institutions, strictly so called; nor can the residence of any Jesuits appear otherwise than injurious among Scotch and English Protestants. That order is well known to have shown itself so dangerous, that it was suppressed by Clement XIV. in 1773, with the approbation of all wise and good men. What species or amount of merit may have brought them again into favour at Rome, I profess myself unable to determine; but I am sure you will agree with me, that a body of men whose principles and conduct have been so justly reprobated in Catholic countries cannot be looked upon as desirable neighbours among Protestants like ourselves."

A *New Romish Bishopric* has been formed in the south of Ireland, the late united diocese of Cloyne and Ross having, at the earnest prayer of Dr. Murphy, the present bishop, been divided by the Pope into two; Dr. Murphy to remain Bishop of Cloyne, and the Rev. Dr. Ryan, parish priest of Middleton, having been appointed to the diocese of Ross. The bull for the consecration of the new bishop has arrived, and is in the hands of Dr. Slattery, the Roman Catholic Archbishop of Cashel.

A correspondence, on the subject of *Mr. Bennett's resignation* of the incumbency of St. Paul's and St. Barnabas, has been published. Sir John Harington and Mr. Gibson, on behalf of the Congregation, wrote to Mr. Bennett on the 7th instant, objecting to his resignation, on the ground that it was not valid in law; that it was a mere promise, inadvertently made, and should not be followed up. Mr. Bennett, in reply, declared that he repudiated the temporal law as binding on the conscience in spiritual matters; that though he should be found wrong in temporal law, he would not forego his obedience to the far higher court of God, and to the Bishop's judgment that he is guilty of unfaithfulness to the Church of England; and that he would therefore sign the legal documents of resignation on the 25th of March. The congregation then applied to the Bishop of London, proposing that he should "specify what, in the administration of the services at St. Paul's and St. Barnabas, he wished to be altered, omitted, or supplied." They said that they desired to try in the Ecclesiastical Courts those questions for which Mr. Bennett had been pronounced unfaithful to the Church of England; and to raise those questions with the least possible delay and expense, admitted the facts in an amicable spirit, contending not for victory but truth. The Bishop, however, closed the correspondence by declining, through his secretary, to accede to the request.

A numerous attended meeting, having for its object *the Revival of Convocation*, was held at Freemasons'

Hall on the 14th. Mr. Henry Hoare presided. An address to the Queen was moved by Mr. Dudley Perceval, and seconded by Dr. Biber, praying, upon a variety of considerations, stated at great length, that her Majesty, "agreeably to the solemn pledge given at her coronation, would issue her royal licence to the Convocations of Canterbury and York, on their next assembling according to custom at the commencement of the session of Parliament, in order, that, upon their advice, and her Majesty's assent, such steps might be taken as should be best calculated not only to vindicate the Church of England from the recent aggression of the See of Rome, but to provide for the suppression within the Church of unsound doctrine of every description, by reason of which the Church is grievously divided, as well for the development of her internal resources in such wise as might best enable her to do her proper work in promoting the salvation of souls, and in dispelling the mists of ignorance, error, and superstition, by the bright beams of Christ's holy gospel." An amendment was moved by the Rev. W. Cox, and seconded by Mr. J. J. Cummins, to the effect that the independent action of Synods or Convocation is not sanctioned by the laws of England; that it is the prerogative of the Crown to convene both Houses of Convocation, to deliberate upon such matters as may be committed to them, but that it is equally the right of the Crown to prevent them from being made the arena of party discussions, as they have heretofore been, and would undoubtedly become again; and that in the present agitated state of the Church, it would not conduce to peace or concord, were the Houses of Convocation to be permitted to discuss any question of faith or discipline of the Church of England, as already settled by her articles and formularies. After a long debate the amendment was negatived, and the original address carried by a great majority.

A great meeting of the friends of the Liberal and Free-trade interests in the manufacturing districts of Lancashire and Yorkshire was held on the 23d at Manchester, mainly for the purpose of hearing addresses from the representatives of the largest of those constituencies upon *the present aspect of public affairs* previously to the opening of Parliament. The chief speakers were Messrs. Milner Gibson, Cobden, and Bright. Mr. Milner Gibson drew attention to the successful issue of the policy supported by Mr. Cobden and his friends, in reference to the national finances, and attributed the leaning towards reduction of taxation shown by the present government to the influence of the Council of the Free-trade party. He declared himself opposed to dealing with taxation upon the narrow grounds of whether there was a surplus or a deficiency, and wished to see it based upon well-considered principles. He then enumerated several taxes which might be reduced without losing revenue. He instanced the taxes on tea and coffee; and, referring to the rumoured abolition of the window tax, he censured the proposed substitution of a house tax. He then gave an eloquent summary of the arguments in favour of the abolition of taxes upon knowledge, and advocated the removal of the stamp, advertisement, and paper duties. Mr. Gibson and Mr. Bright dwelt chiefly upon the panic about Papal Aggression; and Mr. Bright stated that all the most widely-circulated local papers in Lancashire and Yorkshire, and the adjacent counties of the East and North, have refused to give any countenance to the cry, and in many instances have boldly and resolutely opposed it. Mr. Cobden marked the difficulty and incongruity of legislation on the subject, by a prominent statement of the qualification for a spiritual war with the alleged aggressor, of our House of Commons—containing its forty or fifty Roman Catholics, (and more of them coming from Ireland,) an Independent or two, three or four Unitarians, a Quaker, and the prospect of a Jew. He concluded by a reference to his own public career. Alluding to his having been called a disappointed demagogue, he said: "This disappointed demagogue wants no public employment: if I did, I might have had it before now. I want no favour, and, as my friend Bright says, no title. I want nothing that any government or any party can give me; and if I am in the House of Commons at all, it is to give my feeble aid to

the advancement of certain questions, on which I have strong convictions. Deprive me of that power; tell me I am not to do this, because it is likely to destroy a government with which at the present moment I can have no sympathy; I say, then, the sooner I return to printing calicoes, or something more profitable than sitting up in the House of Commons night after night in that way, the better both for me and my friends."

NARRATIVE OF LAW AND CRIME.

WILLIAM Henry Marshall, a servant out of place at Brighton, attempted to Murder his Wife, and afterwards committed suicide, on the 30th of December. At three o'clock in the morning his wife was awake by a knocking at the door, on opening which she observed that her husband was almost in a state of nudity. "Why did he return home in that state?" she inquired. He replied "To kill you," and suiting the action to the word, he seized her by the shoulders, and then grasped her throat. Nearly naked as she was, she rushed into the street, followed by her husband, who caught her in the middle of the road. They then struggled together till she fell, and he upon her. She raised the cry of "Police" and "Murder," and then effected her escape. As she ran off she saw a razor in his hand, and he having raised himself again fell. She then returned to him and found the blood gushing from his throat and a razor lying beside him. By the time that several persons, alarmed by her cries, reached the spot, the man was dead. A coroner's jury gave a Verdict of Temporary Insanity.

On new year's eve a horrible Murder was committed in Paris. Two old ladies, Madame Ribault and Mademoiselle Lebel, jointly occupied an apartment in the Rue Bourbon Chateau, Faubourg St. Germain. The former has published several successful works on education, but has latterly devoted her time to writing articles for periodical publications, and more particularly for the "Journal des Demoiselles." The directors of this publication are always in the habit of sending one of the clerks to settle the monthly accounts of the parties who contribute articles to the work. A man named Laforcade, who was sent to settle the old lady's account, had some months since a violent altercation with her, he having made a mistake on his own side of 5f. On this occasion the amount due to Mme. Ribault was 400f., when Laforcade offered her 200f., saying that she had already received 200f. on account. This she denied, when the clerk presented her with a receipt for that sum with her name affixed to it, but which signature she immediately declared to be a forgery. On this a violent altercation ensued, when the clerk suddenly attacked Mme. Ribault, and struck her several blows on the head and chest with a sharp instrument, which he had concealed about him. She fell to the ground senseless, and apparently dead. The noise of her fall attracted the attention of Mdlle. Lebel, who was in another room, and she hastened to ascertain the cause of it. The moment she entered the room, the clerk flew at her, and in a few moments she was lying on the floor a corpse. The murderer then returned to his residence at Montmartre. Madame Ribault, after some time, recovered from her state of insensibility, and although exhausted from loss of blood, managed to crawl to a table on which was a small bell, with which she hoped to bring assistance. The noise of carriages in the street prevented the bell from being heard, and it was not for some hours after that some persons ascending the staircase entered the apartment. The commissary of police was immediately sent for, and received from the lips of Madame Ribault a recital of what had taken place. A warrant for the arrest of the murderer was immediately issued, and he was taken at the office, to which he had gone as usual, in the belief that no one could appear against him. It appears that after the assassin had gone away, Madame Ribault, whilst lying bleeding on the floor, feared that she would die before assistance should arrive; she accordingly attempted to trace in blood on her chemise characters which would indicate the assassin; but,

reflecting that they would not be legible, she, by a great effort, managed to crawl to a chimney-board, where she traced with her finger, dipped in blood, the letters "Commis de M. T—." These letters are very irregular, but are perfectly legible; some others that follow the letter T. are illegible. After this Madame Ribault began to make as much noise as her failing strength would allow, in order to attract assistance, and at last the door of her apartment was forced open. The courage displayed by this old lady was extraordinarily great; for eight hours she remained lying on the floor in a pool of blood, and every hour became weaker and weaker, and, during all this time, the corpse of her murdered companion was lying near her. After Madame Ribault had been stabbed by the assassin in different places, he attempted to thrust a piece of cloth into her throat, but she succeeded in dragging it away. The cloth in question—a napkin—was found; it bore the marks of teeth and blood. It was believed that Madame Lebel had been strangled; but, on examination of her throat by medical men, none of the contusions caused by strangulation could be discovered. In examining her mouth a black pin was found, and afterwards a piece of black riband was seen in the throat. By the aid of instruments this was pulled up, and to it was attached the cap which Madame Ribault had worn on the previous evening. It had been pressed into a sort of ball, and thrust violently into the throat of the deceased by a stick, or some such sort of thing. The assassin attempted suicide by opening a vein with a piece of glass which he took from the window; but he was discovered in time.

A daring Robbery was committed during the night of the 1st inst., at Downlands, in Sussex, the house of the Misses Farncombe. At three in the morning five men broke into the house, through a window of the dairy. They went up stairs and entered the bed-room of Thomas Wood, the man-servant. Aroused by the noise, he leaped from bed and seized his gun, but before he had time to present it he was knocked down by a blow from the butt end of a pistol. Each man had a lighted candle and a pistol. They were disguised and wore masks. Upon coming into the room some of them exclaimed, "There is the —," and they threatened him with instant death if he did not remain quiet. One of them acted as captain, and he employed threats to his followers whenever they did not do as he requested. It is evident they were not quite strangers, for they called the servant by his name, "Tom," and one of the party demanded of the others that he should be quieted (killed) for having a gun in his hand at the time of coming in; and upon this two held guard over him, while the others went to a door at the other end of the room, and while there consulted whether they should kill him. Afterwards they burst in the panels of this door, and entered a dressing-room which led into Miss Susan Farncombe's bed-room. She screamed, but was compelled by the threats of the burglars to be quiet. When Wood heard his mistress scream, he implored the two fellows who guarded him to prevent their companions from injuring her or his other ladies, and one of them went away for such purpose. They demanded money, and commenced ransacking the boxes, cupboards, &c., passing quickly from room to room, and guarding the different passages of the house. They held possession of the house for two hours without being disturbed, and, after they had regaled themselves plentifully from the larder, and the wine-cellar, at length departed with their booty—a considerable sum of money and much valuable plate. At one o'clock on that night, some persons returning home from a party had noted seven men on the road near Downlands; at half-past five the brother-in-law of Wood met seven men near Ringle's Cross-gate. Wood's sword was found near the Cross-gate, his gun was found in the river near Maresfield tan-yard, and one of the masks worn by the burglars was picked up on the road.

Six of the robbers have been arrested and committed for trial. The apprehension of three of them was accidental, and took place on the evening of the burglary, on another charge. The names of these three are John Hamilton, John Smith, and James Smith. They were at a village called Groombridge, where Hamilton gave John

Smith into custody on a charge of having taken a sovereign from him. In the meantime, the Police of the Tunbridge Wells district having received intelligence of a burglary committed at a Mr. Kenward's at Hartfield, and thinking the whole party suspicious characters, proceeded to search them, and found upon them a five-pound note of the Lewes bank, a coat, umbrella, and mask. These were taken to Downlands, and the coat and umbrella were at once recognised by the butler and housekeeper of the Misses Farnecombe. Two more, named Hillyer and Morgan, were captured, after a desperate resistance, by the Guildford Police, in a beer-shop in that town, and several of the articles stolen from the house at Downlands found upon them. Another man, named Joseph Carter, was taken at Woking; on whose person was also found part of the stolen property, and a pistol loaded with slugs. Morgan was identified by the butler as the man who knocked him down with the pistol, and Carter as the man who kept guard over him. During the investigation, evidence was given of four other burglaries with which the prisoners appear to have been connected.

At the Warwickshire Sessions, on the 2nd, Holloway, a turnkey in the County Gaol at Coventry, was found guilty of *procuring a key* to be made which would fit ninety of the locks in the gaol, with the object of facilitating the escape of Thompson, a prisoner awaiting trial for forging Bank-of-England notes. Thompson had promised Holloway 100*l.* if he should escape. The treacherous turnkey is sentenced to transportation for fourteen years.

The Mountfield Police, in Tyrone, having lately discovered an *illicit Distillery* in the country, made three men prisoners. While conveying them away, the officers were fired upon from some heath, and one of them was wounded in the thigh. The Police replied with a running fire from their rear rank, and succeeded in carrying off their prisoners. It was found necessary to amputate the wounded man's leg.

In the *Insolvent Court*, on the 4th, Thomas Wallis, described as a "doctor of music," was opposed by several creditors, on the grounds that the debts had been improperly contracted, and that the insolvent's arrest was a friendly one to enable him to obtain the benefit of the act. The insolvent said he was a professor of music, and had been made a "doctor of music" by the late Archbishop of Canterbury, and was known as "Dr. Wallis." He denied that he obtained his diploma of doctor through his interest with the cook of the archbishop. Mr. Commissioner Phillips expressed his surprise that the Archbishop of Canterbury could confer such a degree. The insolvent's counsel said that the archbishop had the power to confer degrees, and the insolvent said he had not been examined by the archbishop but had been recommended by Sir H. Bishop. The insolvent denied that the arrest was a friendly one, but the arresting creditor, who was present, admitted that it was. The insolvent was remanded to prison; the commissioner declaring that he would never entertain a petition founded on false evidence.

A middle-aged married woman, named Elizabeth Poole, committed *Suicide* on the 4th. From an inquest held on her body, in University College Hospital, it appeared that she and her husband, who had been twenty-one years married, were mutually jealous of each other, and that during those jealous ebullitions she had frequently threatened suicide. On the above day one of those love quarrels between them took place, during which the husband struck her. Soon afterwards she went to a female friend named Hancock, to whom she related the circumstance of the quarrel, gave her some money to hand to her husband, and told her that when she was next seen it would be a corpse in an hospital. The same evening she was found insensible and dying on the steps of a gentleman's house in Seymour Street, Euston Square, whence she was conveyed to the hospital, and it was found that she had swallowed oxalic acid, of which she died the following day. A verdict of insanity was given.

A *Den of Juvenile Thieves* was discovered by the police on the Monday of the 5th, under one of the arches of the South Western Railway, nearest the vacant piece of ground in the York Road. The cave, which had a

fireplace in it, was most ingeniously fitted up, having a cooking apparatus, and nearly every article required for domestic purposes. A place to keep the victuals in was sunk in the ground, and secured from dirt by a lid similar to the iron-grating over the area coal-vaults in the public streets. By fastening boards and canvas to the cave, they succeeded in keeping out the weather, whilst a quantity of straw served the gang for a bed. How it was possible for any one to live in the place seems incredible, for neither of the officers were able to stand upright in the cave, and to enter it they were obliged to force their way backwards, the opening being too small to admit of their going in, in the regular way. Five of the youths were apprehended and conveyed to the station. Next day they were brought up before the Lambeth Police Court, and sentenced to terms of imprisonment from six to three weeks.

On the 6th, a respectable looking young woman was charged at the Southwark Police Court, on her own confession, with *Stealing a Gold Watch* from a gentleman in the city. On the previous night she had come up to a policeman on duty, and confessing the crime, told him she was impelled by remorse to give herself up to justice. On inquiry, it appeared that there was no foundation for this self-accusation; and the girl, questioned by the magistrate as to her motive in making it, said that she was out later than she was in the habit of being, and unwilling to disturb the family with whom she lived, and rather than remain in the streets, walking about all night, and subject herself to insult, she brought the whole accusation against herself, with a view of being taken to the station house. The magistrate dismissed her with a lecture on the folly and impropriety of her conduct.

A little boy, named Joseph Neville, was charged at the Mansion House on the 6th, with having picked a *Gentleman's Pocket* of a handkerchief. The prisoner was not expert in the office, and was caught in the act by the prosecutor, who seized and held him. The Lord Mayor: How long have you been picking pockets? Prisoner: I have been at it just three months, sir. The Lord Mayor: And how many pockets have you picked in that time? Prisoner: (shaking his head) I really don't know. The Lord Mayor: Do you mean that you don't know because they were so many? Prisoner: I do, your lordship. The Lord Mayor then sentenced the wretched child to be imprisoned for one month, and gave some particular directions respecting him to the principal gaoler.

Moses Barnett, a Jew dealer, was convicted at the Central Criminal Court on the 7th, of *Feloniously Receiving a quantity of Indigo*, knowing it to be stolen. The principal witness was Henry Sellers, a lad of fifteen, by whom the indigo had been stolen, from whose evidence it appeared that the prisoner was one of those persons who carry on a systematic plan of getting hold of young boys in service, and tempting them to rob their employers. He was sentenced to transportation for ten years.

At the Bristol Quarter Sessions on the 7th, James Simpson was indicted for having *Stolen a Purse* in a railway carriage from a young woman. The prosecutrix was journeying to Bristol by the express train, when the prisoner took his seat in the same carriage. She felt him force himself up against her three or four times, and at length, in consequence of a communication made to her by a lady who sat on the opposite seat, she was induced to search her pockets, when she missed her purse and its contents. Upon the arrival of the train at Bristol she gave an alarm, and the prisoner made a desperate effort to escape, but a hue and cry having been raised, he was pursued and seized by some of the company's officers, who found upon him various sums of money, evidently the proceeds of robberies, and a purse of gold, which was identified by a lady named Powell, as having during the day been abstracted from her pocket. The prisoner having been found guilty, the court ordered him to be transported for ten years; upon hearing which he fell down at the bar as if fainting, but upon being roused again by the gaolers, he thrust out his tongue in recognition of some friends in the gallery, and then left the court.

At the Reading General Quarter Sessions, Robert

Dace, a well-dressed young man, who had been a teacher of music at Abingdon, was indicted for having stolen a *Gold Pencil-case*. It appeared that on the 3rd of August the prisoner visited the house of a Mr. Davis, for the purpose of tuning a pianoforte. He was left alone some time in the room where the pencil-case was. He left as usual, and on the following morning it was missed from the work-box where it had been deposited. About the middle of the month the prisoner offered it for sale to a Mrs. Beckinsall, and she bought it of him for 10s. Some days after he had sold it he applied to have it returned, as he feared that "the person from whom he had had it had come by it dishonestly." The police then got a knowledge of the affair, and the prisoner was apprehended. The jury returned a verdict of guilty, and evidence was then gone into of two previous convictions for felony, upon which the prisoner had been sentenced to twelve months' imprisonment. The chairman, in passing sentence, observed that the court did not think that the prisoner, occupying such a position as he had, would be likely (having been previously convicted of felonies) to reform and become an honest man. They therefore deemed it necessary to inflict a severe sentence, and that was, that the prisoner be transported for the term of his natural life. The prisoner seemed astonished at the sentence, and a feeling of surprise appeared to be felt by the crowd which had assembled in the court.

William Strange, bookseller, in Paternoster-row, came up before the *Bankruptcy Court* on the 10th, on the question of passing his last examination. His name had acquired considerable notoriety in connexion with certain proceedings in the Court of Chancery, known as the Royal Etchings case. It may be remembered that Strange having been imprisoned for debt, his wife wrote to Prince Albert requesting a remission of the costs for the non-payment of which her husband was incarcerated. His Royal Highness acceded to the prayer of Mrs. Strange in a generous manner, and has since then acted towards the bankrupt in a still more munificent spirit. Prince Albert is a creditor under this estate for 200*l.*, law costs, but has, through Colonel Anson, intimated his intention to forego this claim. An application on behalf of the bankrupt, for an adjournment, as the balance-sheet was not yet in readiness, was made and agreed to.

Several cases of *Violent Assault with intent to Rob* have occurred in the streets of London.

Mr. Henry Francis Seymour, a retired military officer, was walking homewards to Hackney through Shoreditch late on the night of the 18th, when four men set on him at the corner of a street and tried to overpower him. He was struggling desperately when a policeman scared them, and they fled; but Mr. Seymour caught one, and held him fast. When the constable came up this ruffian audaciously charged Mr. Seymour with odious conduct; but the constable knew the accuser too well, and took him to prison.

As Mr. T. C. Wigs and his little son, a boy of twelve, were returning home on the night of the 13th, through Walworth Road, Mr. Wigs was *Attacked from behind*, and beaten heavily on the head; but his assailant presently ran away. A policeman shortly came up with the offender in custody; and at the police station it was found that he was Charles Wood, an omnibus driver, an associate of thieves, and brother of a "proprietor of omnibuses," who has just completed a term of imprisonment in Paris for a felony committed there. Close to the spot where the policeman caught Wood, a whip made of gutta-percha with a heavily leaded butt was picked up, evidently the weapon employed in the assault. Mr. Wigs has been in a dangerous condition.

As Mr. Leflier, the singer, was going along the Kennington Road, about 12 o'clock at night on the 16th, he was run up against by a woman, and a man behind her, exclaiming, "What do you mean by insulting my wife?" immediately made a violent attack on him, in which the woman joined. He defended himself with his umbrella till a constable came up, when they were both taken into custody. Next day they were brought before the Lambeth Police Court, and remanded.

A gang of *Swindling Bill-discounters* has been discovered by the Police, and a person of gentlemanly ap-

pearance and manners, calling himself Capt. Routledge, has been arrested as being their chief. They have for some years carried on their practices with impunity, under a variety of designations; Wigram and Co., Taylor and Co., Hill and Co., Green and Co., Hankey and Co., Gurney and Co., and lastly Bruce and Co. Mr. Richard Johnson, of the flint-glass works, St. Helen's, Lancashire, was induced by the promising circulars of "Messrs. Bruce and Co." to apply for their pecuniary aid; and he received in the way of their business a bill of exchange for 213*l.* 16*s.*, drawn by them, and accepted and endorsed by other imaginary persons; for which he paid 10*l.* commission. Mr. Johnson got it discounted, and at the time of its maturity forwarded to "Messrs. Bruce" the funds to redeem it from the London banker at whose place of business it was made payable: but the bill was not taken up, and on inquiry no parties could be found who answered the description of "Messrs. Bruce;" so that Mr. Johnson had to pay a second time. The police traced the swindlers to their retreat in Stoke Newington, and bursting into the house, discovered Captain Routledge in the midst of all the paraphernalia of his fraudulent occupation. Bills of exchange were found amounting to 357*l.*; money to the amount of 150*l.* in gold and half-notes; a vast number of pawnbroker's tickets for pieces of broad-cloth and other goods; and more than a truck-load of the circulars by which the Messrs. Bruce offered their pecuniary aid on easy and confidential terms. It appears from the investigations of the Police, that the address of the swindling firm has been successively in several of the suburban streets; that no number was ever given with the address on the circular; and that the address given was never that of the street at the time inhabited, but of one occupied some time before; and yet that the letters always found their way by regular course of post to the actual place of business of the swindlers. These circumstances had afforded them great additional means of concealment. The prisoner has been remanded, in expectation that a mass of additional charges will be made against him.

The protracted and important cause of *Thewes v. Kelly* was brought to an issue on the 11th, in the Court of Delegates at Dublin, when an unanimous judgment was given in favour of the appellant, Miss Thewles. The case arose out of the will of the late Mr. Edmond Kelly, a Galway solicitor and land-agent, who had accumulated an enormous fortune in real and personal property, to the amount of 3,000*l.* a-year in landed estates, and 250,000*l.* in the funds, which was left by the disputed will to the respondent, who, it is alleged, was married to him. On the part of the appellants, it was contended that the will was the result of undue influence, and the delegates were unanimous in annulling that instrument. Heretofore, in this long litigated case, the decisions have all been in favour of Mrs. Kelly, who had meantime made arrangements for lending 200,000*l.* to the directors of the Midland and Great Western Railway, charged as a mortgage on the new line from Athlone to Galway. There had been a previous suit between Mrs. Kelly and the heir-at-law for the freehold property, which was abandoned in consequence of an arrangement; and then the next of kin, Miss Thewles, instituted a suit for the invalidation of the will. The respondent was also condemned to all the costs of the proceedings, amounting to 15,000*l.*

An act of *Horrible Cruelty*, by which the whole live stock of a farmer was destroyed, was perpetrated on Sunday the 12th, at Dagnell near Dunstable. Mr. Cutler, a small farmer residing in the above village, was roused from sleep during the night, by the moaning noise of one of his pigs, and on going into the yard found the poor animal mutilated in a most shocking manner, being, in appearance, chopped in two across the loins with a bill or axe. Fearing that more mischief had been done to his stock, he went round his premises, and discovered, to his horror, that all his cows, six in number, had been cruelly cut about the hind-legs, the hamstrings completely separated, and the tail of one of the animals cut off. Mr. Cutler immediately sent for a butcher, and had the poor animals slaughtered. Suspicion fell upon a man who had recently been working for Mr. Cutler. This man

had disputed with his employer at the time of settling on Saturday night, and when he left the premises held out a threat that he would serve him out for it. Information was given to the police, who went to the cottage of the man and apprehended him while in bed. His clothes were marked with blood, and there were other suspicious appearances. He was taken before the magistrates and remanded for further examination. After the hearing, the man, whose name is Norman, and described as a labourer, was taken to Ivinghoe cage, but on the police officers going to the place on the following morning it was discovered that he had fled. It is supposed the prisoner had been assisted to escape from his confinement by persons on the outside, for, on examining the building, the wall was found to have been undermined, and a hole made large enough to admit a man's body.

Charles Gomez, a South American, was charged at Guildhall on the 14th, with *assaulting* Antonio Gomez, a Spaniard. The assault having been proved by a policeman, the prisoner told his story. I am (he said), a bow and arrow maker, and used to live in Liverpool-street. Antonio Gomez came to me and told me he could get me a great deal of custom among his connexions in England. He often came to my house, and soon afterwards I found him with my wife in a dark room. I forbid him my house. I have often met them since arm in arm. Upon the last occasion I told him I would kill him if ever I caught them together again. After all this, last night I was walking through St. Paul's churchyard, and there I saw him walking with my wife again, and they were laughing and talking together; I was enraged at it and struck him, and I could not help doing so. Alderman Farebrother—And I think you served him right. If I had caught a man with my wife in the same manner, I would have broken every bone in his skin. You were wrong to attempt to make use of a knife though; and as for you (turning to the complainant, who was preparing to sneak out of the court), the sooner such disreputable characters as yourself return to their own country, the better. Such tricks as these may do there, where the people are not so particular; but in a Christian country like this we don't allow them. Now go away, and never let me see you here again under similar circumstances, or I shall place you where the prisoner now stands. I shall dismiss this case; and (to prisoner) I would advise you, if ever you find that man with your wife again, to give him a good thrashing, but use no knives.

In the Inland Revenue Court, on the 15th, a number of tradesmen were convicted of *Adulterating articles in which they Dealt*. Thomas Christie, a grocer, in an extensive business at Whitechapel was fined 300*l.* for adulterating pepper with rice. Thomas Shelton Little, Putney Street; Edward Shellis, Bedford Place, Commercial Road; William Lawson, Commercial Road; G. Johnston, Whitechapel; E. F. Lelle, and B. Taylor, Whitechapel Road, were each fined 200*l.* for a similar offence. Others were fined in smaller amounts.

Mrs. Kinder, a farmer's widow, residing in the neighbourhood of Hattersley in Cheshire, was *Murdered* on the evening of the 16th. She had been left for a short time alone in the house, and was found by the maid-servant lying in the parlour, dead and covered with blood. The drawers in the room were open, and had been ransacked. The murderers have not been discovered.

The Rev. R. A. Johnstone, Rector of Ingrave, who was charged before the magistrates at Brentwood with a *Criminal Assault* on a servant-girl (see "Household Narrative" for November last, page 251), having received notice from the bishop of the diocese of his lordship's intention to issue a commission of inquiry into the scandal and evil report arising out of the proceedings in the case, has presented a petition to the bishop, praying that he may be allowed to withdraw from the charge of the parishes of Ingrave and West Horndon. The bishop has appointed a curate to reside in the rectory house.

Mr. Richard Randall, a gold-beater in Norton Street, *Committed Suicide* on the 17th in Kensal Green cemetery. He was found by a policeman, lying on his face in a pool of coagulated blood, on the north side of the

cemetery, close to the shrubbery which divides the grounds. A razor was found at his side, with which he had inflicted two frightful gashes in his throat. The body was quite cold and stiff. In deceased's pocket were his name and address. At the inquest on his body, a lady deposed that at twelve o'clock on Friday she was in the cemetery, when deceased rushed towards her, and standing in front of her stared wildly at her a few seconds. He then rushed behind the monument where he was found, and cut his throat; the blood gushing out. A labourer stated that he saw the deceased walking towards the shrubbery where the body was found, with his note-book in his hand, as if sketching the monument. A verdict was found of *Insanity*.

At the Worship Street Police Court, Susan Nunn, a showily-dressed young woman of thirty, was charged with *Robbing Young Children of their Clothes* in the streets of St. George's-in-the-East. A swarm of little girls and boys, "estimated by the gaoler to be nearly fifty in number," and varying in age from six to thirteen, appeared under the care of their parents or friends to establish two or three score of cases. The prisoner had been placed in a room with several other women, and a number of the children brought in: they all consecutively and without the slightest hesitation identified Nunn as the person who robbed them. The officers arrested her by stratagem. Six cases were proved, and she was sent to Newgate for trial.

A woman named Elizabeth Bainbridge, was *Murdered* on the 20th, near Bury St. Edmunds. She was a married woman, but for some years had lived apart from her husband. She was about 30 years of age, and appears to have borne an exemplary character. Her parents, with whom she had resided since her separation from her husband, are in comfortable circumstances, living at a small farm, and are much respected in the neighbourhood. On the afternoon of the day on which she met with her death, she had been on a visit at her brother's house, the Harrow Inn. She left there between 3 and 4 o'clock to return to her father's, about a mile and a-quarter distant; George Carn, a man who had been lodging at her brother's for some days past, following her, as is believed, across the fields. It is evident, from the tattered condition of her dress and the state of the ground near the pond where the body was discovered, that a fearful struggle must have ensued between the victim and her murderer. It is conjectured that a refusal to comply with some improper overtures on his part led to a struggle, and that in a moment of revenge he forced her into the pond, where, from the shallowness of the water and the position in which she was found, she must have been held down with considerable violence in order to destroy her life. The pond is in a very lonely situation, and the banks are thickly studded with bushes. On the following day an inquest was held on the body. It presented the appearance of a fine healthy woman of ordinary stature, possessing rather pleasing features, and, with the exception of a slight bruise on the side of the head, there was nothing to indicate that she had met a violent death. Both arms, however, bore marks of having been tightly gripped, evidently inflicted while the poor creature was being held under the water. The evidence of the woman's father, of an officer in the constabulary, of a servant in the inn, and of the surgeon who had examined the body, made a strong case of suspicion against Carn, who was committed to the county gaol, for trial at the next assizes.

Three children named Daniel Smith, John Watson, and Richard Haines, two of them under nine, and the third under eleven years of age, were brought before the Lord Mayor on the 20th, charged with having *Attempted to Pick Pockets*. They had been followed by a lad, who, to his surprise, saw one of them introduce a piece of stick into the pocket of a gentleman, open the pocket, and upon looking in and ascertaining that it contained nothing, push the stick into the pocket of another customer, while the two others followed closely in readiness to receive whatever luck should turn up. The smallest of the boys said, "Don't you believe a word he says, my lord. It's all nothing but out and out lies." The Lord Mayor: What did you carry that

stick for? Boy: What for? why, to keep away any boys that might want to whack me, to be sure. The police said that the borough, however, where the children lived, was crowded with little creatures who were regularly brought up to the business of alternately begging and robbing. The eldest of the boys said he had neither father nor mother, but he lived with a woman in Mint Street, to whom he paid a penny a night for his bed, and he grubbed about for his victuals in the day. The Lord Mayor: I shall cause inquiries to be made about you, and send you to the House of Occupation. Boy: Don't do that. If you let me go you shan't have me any more, I'll promise you. The Lord Mayor: No. You shall have some protection. As for the other two, they shall be whipped in the presence of their parents, who are here, and discharged.

Several *Poor Orange Venders* were brought before the Clerkenwell Police Court on the 20th, charged by Mr. James, the clerk to the Holborn Union, and several parish officers, with obstructing the streets and creating a nuisance by their cries. Mr. Combe, the magistrate, after hearing some of the cases, in which it was merely proved that the accused had called out "Two a penny oranges," and carried their baskets before them, asked what law was there to prevent parties selling their fruit in the street? Mr. James said they were in the habit of standing two or three together, and surely that was an obstruction. Mr. Combe: Certainly not. Placing their baskets upon the footway must be proved against them so as to cause obstruction, but there was no law to prevent parties selling oranges in the street on Sunday. Mr. James: They ought to walk on the carriage way. Mr. Combe: Oh, no! the foot pavement is free for everybody, and there is no act of parliament to compel people to walk on the carriage way. An overseer of the parish said the calling out of oranges on Sunday was an intolerable nuisance. Mr. Combe: They may call oranges all over the country if they like. Overseer: I am an overseer, and the inhabitants expect protection from me. Mr. Combe: You are not an act of parliament; you are an overseer. What nuisance is it to call out "Two a penny oranges?"

A young man was charged with *Selling his Fruit and Assaulting a Policeman*. The officer saw the prisoner selling his fruit, but there was no evidence of any obstruction, and on the officer taking him into custody he resisted and struck him. Mr. Combe said that the constable had no right to interfere with the prisoner. As he had said before, they had no right to meddle with poor persons for selling oranges. If not in the commission of an illegal act the police had no right to interfere with any one; if they did so they ought to expect resistance and assault. The charges accordingly were dismissed.

William Bristol, a young ruffian, was tried on the 21st, at the Middlesex Sessions, for having *Attempted to Steal* from a person unknown. The prisoner in company with a notorious thief and prostitute, had been detected by a police officer one evening, in Gray's Inn Lane, putting his hand into the pocket of a person passing by, but before he had time to take anything his companion gave the alarm and they ran away, but the man was captured. From the evidence given by the police officer it appeared that the prisoner was a member of a gang of daring thieves, and the "deputy" or sub-landlord of a notorious den in Fox Court, Gray's Inn Lane, which was known as the "Thieves' Kitchen," and which was the rendezvous of burglars, pickpockets, prostitutes, and pot stealers; a regular receptacle of stolen property, and where nightly could be seen thieves, prostitutes, and beggars, of all ages and of both sexes, huddled together indiscriminately, there being in some instances eight or ten men, women and children, all in one bed together. Some short time before, the officer had been on duty near Fox Court, and on contriving to peep into the "Kitchen" through a window, he saw the prisoner in a room with a line tied across it, and from this line was suspended a coat, in the pockets of which were placed pocket-handkerchiefs. A dozen little boys surrounded the prisoner, and each in turn tried his skill in removing a handkerchief without moving the coat or shaking the line. If he performed the manœuvre with skill and dexterity, he received the congratulations of

the prisoner; if he did it clumsily or in such a manner as would have led to detection, had the operation been performed in the usual manner in the street, the prisoner beat them with severity, having on the occasion in question knocked down and kicked two of the boys for not having exhibited the requisite amount of tact and ingenuity in extracting the handkerchief. The learned judge said he regretted that the court had not the power of passing such a sentence as would rid the country of the prisoner, but sentenced him to be kept to hard labour for eighteen calendar months.

Iacchimo Guiccioli, who stated himself to be a *Natural Son of the late Lord Byron*, was placed before the Marylebone police magistrate on the 25th, very nearly naked, and shivering from head to foot, charged with being *Drunk*. He told the magistrate he had but just returned from the Archipelago, and had fallen in with some land sharks, who had stripped him of all his worldly goods and garments. The magistrate cast a pitying glance at the unfortunate man, and dismissed the case.

On the 27th an inquest was held in Horsemonger Lane Gaol, touching the death of George Foster, who committed *suicide* by hanging himself in one of the cells in which he was confined under remand from the Southwark Police Court. The prisoner was charged with neglect of and cruelty to his child. The Jury returned the following verdict:—"That the deceased did destroy himself by hanging himself, but that the jury consider they have not sufficient evidence as to his state of mind."

A well-dressed man, who gave the name of Clarke, but who is known to the Mendicity Society as a begging-letter writer of the name of Bath Joss, was charged on the 27th, at the Marlborough Street Police Court, with having attempted to obtain money from the Marquis of Anglessey *by false and fraudulent representations*. The Marquis's secretary stated that during the previous week several letters were received by the Marquis purporting to come from one Robert Clarke, and asking for pecuniary assistance. The letters were sent to the Mendicity Society for investigation. Captain Wood, of the Mendicity Society, called at Uxbridge House, and it was arranged that a letter should be written to the applicant, Clarke, to be called for at the Post-office in the Blackfriars Road, as requested by the applicant. The secretary wrote a letter, enclosing a shilling, and stating that the money was in aid of the applicant's present wants, but if the case turned out to be one worthy of consideration further assistance should be given. A mendicity constable went with another constable to Blackfriars Road, and kept watch at the post-office. A woman called and asked if there were any letters for Mr. Robert Clarke. The post-office keeper said there was a letter, but as it was a registered letter it could only be delivered to the person to whom it was addressed. The woman, who was the wife of the prisoner, said she would inform Mr. Clarke, who would probably call in the course of the day. Shortly afterwards the prisoner came into the shop, and representing himself to be Robert Clarke, the letter was given to him. The constable recognised the prisoner as an old acquaintance; and when the prisoner left the shop he followed him. The prisoner opened the letter and went down a by-street. Apparently suspecting something, he threw the letter away and ran off, but was pursued and secured. He was committed to prison for two months as a rogue and a vagabond.

A singular case of *Affiliation* has occurred at Whitehaven. A woman appeared before the magistrates to affiliate, not, as in ordinary cases, a child, but in this case two children upon the same father, the woman having been delivered of twins! The magistrates conferred together upon this rather uncommon case. The clerk suggested it to be actually necessary to make two distinct orders upon the putative parent, as in case one of the children died, the other would be left unprotected for. In answer to a question from the magistrates, the woman said the children had been duly baptised and christened, the one named William and the other Nicholas. The bench awarded *ls. 6d.* a week for each child, distinguishing them by name, with the usual costs.

Mrs. Sloane has been apprehended and brought to London. The statement that she had left this country immediately after the examination of Mr. Sloane, turns out to have been correct. Since the finding of the true bill by the Grand Jury against Mr. Sloane, the police have been indefatigable in their exertions to trace her whereabouts. In consequence of the reports that she was residing at Boulogne, two superior officers of that force proceeded to that port, where, however, they did not succeed in finding her; but they learnt that she had left for England. They immediately returned to this country; and on the morning of the 28th, early information reached the Lord Mayor that they had succeeded in the object of their search, and had apprehended her. It appears that, on the police officers arriving at Beulogne, they ascertained that Mrs. Sloane was actually residing there, and in consequence of the representations made to the French authorities, an order was issued that she should quit France by the next packet sailing for Folkestone. The police officers also returned in the same packet, and on their arrival at Folkestone, took her into custody, and brought her to London. She was immediately conveyed to Westminster-hall, and introduced into the judge's room, when Mr. Justice Erle attended for the purpose of taking the surrender and signing the order of committal. On her being introduced to the Judge, she was unable to stand, and was accommodated with a chair. The necessary evidence having been given, Mr. Justice Erle asked the prisoner if she was prepared with bail? she feebly said she was not. The Judge then signed the order of committal, and she was conveyed to Newgate. She was dressed in an old black silk bonnet and thick black veil, the lower part of her face being covered; she also wore an old and faded black silk cloak; and altogether her appearance was most pitiable.

John Moules, a young man, was charged on the 27th, at the Clerkenwell police-court, with having committed a *Murderous Assault* upon police-constable Hayes. The prosecutor was in so weak a condition and in such pain that he was allowed a seat while he gave his evidence. It appeared that on last Sunday night week, about 12 o'clock, the policeman was on duty in College Street, St. Pancras, when he found the prisoner in a state of intoxication, and was good-naturedly assisting him towards his place of abode, when he suddenly turned upon him and gave him a tremendous kick in the belly. He fell down and became insensible. A gentleman who witnessed the outrage stopped the prisoner, and gave him into the custody of an officer, who took him to the station-house, while the prosecutor was carried away for medical assistance. Mr. Smelly, a surgeon, said he was called upon to attend the injured officer, whom he found in considerable pain and injured severely on the abdomen. His life was then in great danger, but he had now materially recovered, but was unable to perform his duty. The prisoner said nothing in his defence, and was fully committed for trial.

NARRATIVE OF ACCIDENT AND DISASTER.

THERE have been *Disastrous Floods in Cumberland*. On New Year's night, a violent gale from the south west was accompanied with heavy rain. The effect was that the waters of Ullswater Lake (augmented by the downpouring upon the mountain range amid which it is situate) were forced into the channel of the Eamont and thence into the Eden. The Caldew and Petteril also rose far beyond their wonted volume; the latter, in particular, so much overflowed its wonted bounds, that the fields, right and left, and the high road to Warwick on the eastern side of the Petteril Bridge, were laid under water, in some places several feet in depth, cutting off all communication with the city on that side except on horseshack, or in carriages, carts, or other high-wheeled vehicles. All the low and level grounds bordering the Eden for miles, both above and below Carlisle Bridge, were covered with a body of water which had the appearance of a vast lake. When the tide of the Solway began to retire, the flood also began to fall. Many

sheep and cattle were lost; more would have perished had they not been taken off from elevated spots, to which they had found their way, by persons in boats.

On Christmas night, a *Dreadful Occurrence* took place near Kilrush, in the county of Limerick. Bridget Haugh dressed herself in man's clothes, and, having blackened her face, went to her father-in-law's house to have some diversion. Her brother-in-law was taking care of the house, as his father was not at home; he had a loaded gun in his hand, and when he saw, as he thought, the man blackened, he presented his gun at his sister-in-law and fired, and lodged the contents of it between her shoulders. She died at once. There was an inquest held on her body, and the verdict returned was manslaughter against Michael Haugh, her brother-in-law.

A *Canoe with nineteen naked Savages* was picked up on the 7th of September, by the Jeremiah Garnett, Captain Daly, on her voyage from Shanghai to Liverpool. They had, thirteen days before, been blown out to sea from the islands of St. David's, which lie off New Guinea. One of the poor wretches died the same evening. Captain Daly landed the others at St. David's from whence they had been driven.

An accident happened on the *North Western Railway* on the 4th. Near the Boxmeer station an express-train ran into a goods-train, which had drawn up on account of the lameness of its engine. The driver and guard of the express-train saw the goods-train when nearly a thousand yards from it; but their pace was great—thirty-five miles an hour, and the rails were slippery from a shower that had just fallen; so they could not do more than slacken their rate to about eight miles an hour at the moment of coming in contact with the standing carriages. The driver and the stoker of the express-train leaped off their engine at the instant of collision: the first escaped without material hurt, but the second entangled his foot, fell on the road, and was taken up insensible; he revived under the application of stimulants, but has been dangerously bruised. Twelve or fourteen passengers were injured, some of them severely; one lady lost her teeth.

In the course of erecting some large granaries at the King's Cross terminus of the *same Railway*, an iron girder was lifted by shears to the top of a column that is to form one of the supporters of the roof. At the moment the girder was at its greatest height, the shears slipped, a gye-rope gave way under the vibratory strain, and the ponderous mass fell into a canal, carrying everything with it in its course. James Kendal, carpenter, was killed on the spot, and Green has since died in the University Hospital. A coroner's inquest on the body of Kendal found that the cause of death was accidental.

Several *disasters at Sea* took place in the channel during the heavy gale on the night of the 8th. A schooner was wrecked on the Nass Sands, and every soul on board perished; the name is unknown. The brig Hazard, from Messina, drove ashore. The sloop Anna Maria, from Bulla, foundered in the gale; the crew were saved.

Two fatal accidents have taken place on the *Eastern Counties Railway*. On Wednesday the 8th, a special train was engaged by a son of Professor Haviland of Cambridge, to hasten him to the side of his father's deathbed. The train started from Shoreditch at 5.50 A.M., at such a distance after the Hertford luggage-train as that it would overtake it somewhere about the Ponder's End station. At 5.55 the electric telegraph was put in motion to clear the line in front of the special-train; and after nine minutes of calling the Tottenham Road station sent its answer of obedience. But ten minutes of similar calling on the Ponder's End station proved vain; and at 6.14 the message was passed onwards direct to the Waltham station. It appears that the collision must have occurred in this ten minutes during which the attention of Ponder's End station was vainly solicited. Vincent Lodwick was the night-inspector at the Ponder's End station: his duties were "to attend to the telegraph, the gates of the level crossing, the signals, the trains and their shunting." Within the quarter of an hour after six o'clock, three ordinary trains, and the special train, arrived at Ponder's End. Two of these accomplished "shuntings." While one of the

shuntings was going on, the special-train ran up, and crushed Lodwick so that he died in a few hours afterwards. He had not heard the electric bell; he had no possible time to run six hundred yards back on the line and place explosive signals behind the Hertford train and before the express-train; and he had not, as he should have done, sent the guards of the waiting trains to do it. The express-train had approached at twenty miles an hour, and then "run on easily," probably not much under ten miles an hour. An inquest was held, and the jury found a verdict of manslaughter against Roland Baxter, the driver of the express-train; and they added this expression of their general opinion:—"The jury cannot separate without expressing their unanimous opinion, that the duties assigned to the deceased, who was killed during their proper performance, were more multifarious than a person in his station of life and with his emoluments could reasonably be expected to perform, and that greater precautionary measures, by means of the electric telegraph, might have been adopted. They think it right also to add, that the regulations of the Eastern Counties Railway Company appear to require modification, and that punctuality should be more strictly enforced." In the other case, James Wilson, the driver of a goods-engine, had been killed on the 7th, by his own engine, while it was under the care of his stoker at the Ingatstone station. Wilson had gotten off his engine, and his stoker, Henry Hampshire, was with it shunting a truck, when Wilson was crushed; nobody having seen him approach. The stoker considered himself acting under the orders of the guard of his train; but the guard asserted that in some respect he did not act on the orders given. The coroner's jury returned a verdict of manslaughter against Hampshire.

A *Little Chimney Sweeper has Perished* at Manchester in the flue of a manufactory. It appeared at the inquest that there was a great want of caution in the engineer and the master sweeper: the flue had not been sufficiently cooled and ventilated, and the poor boy was suffocated by the heated gases, as well as burnt by falling on the hot soot. The coroner's jury directed that a copy of the depositions be sent to the Watch Committee, with a request that the parties concerned should be prosecuted for using climbing-boys contrary to law.

A young man named Crook, a nailmaker at Birmingham, *Accidentally Shot his Wife* on the 9th. Having returned home in the evening from his work, he affectionately saluted her, and asked her to get him a nice cup of tea. She was busy in this duty, stooping before the fire toasting some bread, when her husband took up a gun that had just before been placed against the wall by Lockley, their fellow tenant in the house, who had been shooting birds in the garden. As Crook lifted the gun the charge exploded, and his wife sank quietly forward as if fainting; Mrs. Lockley ran and clasped her in her arms, and found her dead—the shot had entered her brain. The poor husband, who had been married only a fortnight, became frantic with grief; tearing his hair and uttering self-accusations. A coroner's inquest was held, and found that this lamentable occurrence was entirely accidental.

A most *Melancholy Shipwreck* has taken place near the Land's End. Early on the morning of Saturday, the 11th, the brig, New Commercial, of Whitby, in a thick fog and strong gale, struck on a ledge of rocks adjoining to the headland of Cape Cornwall, and immediately went to pieces, but the people on board,—the Master, Sanderson, his wife, and eight men, got upon the rocks. They were discovered from the shore as soon as day broke, but no assistance could then be possibly rendered them. In this condition they remained until about nine o'clock, when they were all washed off by one wave, and seven of them perished. Of the remaining three—one, a mulatto, contrived to get on a portion of the floating wreck, and for some hours, clear of the broken waters, till five fishermen, belonging to Sennen, a small fishing cove close to the Land's End, determined, with that resolute spirit for which these men are distinguished, to launch their boat through the breakers, and at length, after encountering great risk, they rescued the poor mulatto from his perilous situation. The master and his wife, when they were carried off the

ledge, were thrown upon the Little Brisson Rock. The master first gained a footing, and saw his wife struggling in the waves, but sufficiently near to enable him to stretch out his hand and pull her in. While the Sennen fishermen were occupied in rescuing the mulatto, her Majesty's revenue cutter Sylva, commanded by Mr. Forward, was seen working round the Land's End, having been ordered to the spot by Captain Davies, the commander of the coast guard of this district. On reaching the point Mr. Forward launched his boat, and attempted, with a crew of four men, to get near the rock, but the attempt was fruitless; and it was only with great difficulty that he regained the cutter. It was now growing late, and nothing more could be attempted in the way of rescue for the day, so Mr. Forward hoisted his colours and hove to his craft, to encourage the poor sufferers, who were now to be left to spend the wretched night without food or shelter, exposed to the wind and rain upon the desolate rock. On Sunday morning the wind and sea abated a little, and all hands were on the alert. At one o'clock four boats were seen approaching from the Sennen Cove—three manned by fishermen and one by the coast guard; at the same time Captain Davies arrived, having embarked in a preventive boat with five men, taking rockets with him. The cutter's boat also was manned by Mr. Forward, so that six boats were quickly on the spot. By this time the people upon the cliffs could not have numbered less than 5000 or 6000; and as each boat arrived at the spot, the cliffs rang with the cheers of the multitude. The sea ran so high that no boat could approach the rock, and Captain Davies therefore proceeded to use his rockets. The first discharge failed; the line which was thrown having been cut by a sharp ledge upon which it fell. Another rocket was discharged, and this time the cord fell upon the rock, close to the unfortunate pair. The husband was seen to fasten the line around the waist of his wife, and to encourage her to take the fearful leap, while she lingered and hesitated to jump into the foaming waters; at last, however, his persuasions prevailed. They took an affecting leave of each other, and, amid the breathless expectation of all, she made the awful plunge from a height of about twelve feet. At this moment three immense waves broke in rapid succession, perilling the safety of all. For a time the boats were entirely hidden from the view of the spectators, and the loud cry broke forth from thousands of voices, "They are gone." But soon again the boats were seen above the waves, and the cliffs once more rang with approving cheers. The cord was drawn with great judgment, and after about three minutes the poor woman was taken into one of the boats; but the blows from the waves were more than her exhausted frame could bear. No attention that could be shown her was spared. The men took off their own clothes to cover her, and used every effort to restore her. She breathed, but by the time the boat reached the cove life had fled. After the master had persuaded his wife to leave him, he fastened the cord round his own waist, and was drawn, greatly exhausted, into one of the other boats. It is impossible to speak too highly of the conduct of those who were employed on this occasion. All who witnessed it agree in declaring that a more gallant and humane act has seldom been recorded.

Mr. Bent, a green-grocer of Newington, driving his grocery cart along the road at Newington Causeway, was *Killed* by being thrown out of the vehicle, one of the wheels having gone into a hole. It appears that, pending a dispute between contentious parishes as to their boundaries and liabilities to keep the roads in repair, this road has been neglected till it has been worn into such ruts and chasms that carriages cannot drive along it without danger. A coroner's inquest was held on the 13th, and, after hearing evidence as to the liabilities of the contending parties, found a verdict of "Manslaughter against Mr. Pocock, chairman, and the five trustees of the south district board of St. George, Southwark."

A *Fire* broke out in the public-house kept by Caunt, the pugilist, in St. Martin's Lane, just after the inmates had retired to rest at two o'clock in the morning of the 15th. Caunt was in the country. Mrs. Caunt and a

niece slept on the second floor, just over the room first on fire; in one of the attic rooms slept her children, and Ruth Lowe, a relative; in separate attics were the barman and other servants. Mrs. Caunt and her niece escaped down stairs; the fire had laid hold of the staircase when the barman discovered it, so there was no retreat from the attics except over the roof. He got everybody on the tiles except Ruth Lowe and two of the three children with her; these, as he could not see them through the smoke in their room, he hoped had escaped earlier, or by means of the fire-escape; but when the fire was extinguished, their bodies were found in the room—they had been suffocated by the smoke.

On the 17th two men were *Killed in a Sewer* at Islington. The commissioners are driving a large tunnel-sewer from Church Street to Cross Street, at a depth of twenty-four feet, and under the tunnel containing the New River, which is at a depth of twelve feet. A Mr. Cox desired to make a drain into the new sewer, and applied to the commissioners for authority, which they refused him. Nevertheless, he set a man at work to make the drain; this man, in the course of his operations penetrated the tunnel of the New River; the waters of the river burst into the sewer when six men were there and carried away George Ellis and William Bone, the others escaping with extreme difficulty. The body of Ellis was recovered at the mouth of the great sewer where it enters the Thames; that of Bone has not been recovered.

Mr. Braidwood, the superintendent of the London fire-engine establishment, has made his *Annual Report*, from which it appears that the fires during the past year have been 868—an increase of 30 beyond those of the preceding year. The buildings totally destroyed or considerably damaged were 247—nine less than the year before; those slightly damaged 621—39 more than the year before. The chimnies on fire were 79, the "calls for assistance" were 1038, the "false alarms" 91. The "fatal fires" were 17, and the number of lives lost 18. Nearly a hundred houses were seriously damaged by exploding fireworks.

The United States mail steam-ship *Atlantic*, which left Liverpool for New York on the 28th of December, has been *Driven Back* to Cork harbour. She met with uninterrupted gales from the West, but sped her way with power and safety till the 6th instant, when she was equidistant from Cape Clear and New York—1400 miles from each; on that day her main shaft broke, and her machinery became useless. She was put under canvas, and tried to reach Bermuda; but the winds continuing adverse, she turned home on the 11th, and arrived in Queenstown harbour on the 22nd. The Liverpool agents of the owners of the United States mail-steamers, have chartered the British mail-steamer the *Cambria* to proceed to Cork at the earliest possible moment, and take on board the cargo, and such of the passengers as choose, to carry them to New York. From the arrangements of the mail service, and the delay that must occur before the *Cambria* can join the *Atlantic* and proceed on the voyage to Cork, coupled with the fact that the disabled vessel did not sight a single outward-bound vessel on the whole of her run out and home, the news of her safety will not arrive in America till a month after her expected arrival in New York. Throughout the Union, therefore, there will be almost a certain belief that she has been lost on the voyage.

Two *Fires*, one of them very destructive, broke out in London on the 27th. The large premises belonging to Messrs. Bousfield and Sons', wholesale clothiers in Houndsditch, (a firm who employed 1500 hands) were almost entirely destroyed, with loss of property to the amount of above 30,000*l.* The cause of the fire has not yet been discovered. The other fire was at the New Houses of Parliament. It was discovered about two o'clock in the afternoon, in a story of the clock-tower on the side facing Westminster Bridge. For a time it caused great alarm, but was soon extinguished without any serious damage.

A singular accident happened lately at the *Eddystone Lighthouse*. On the morning of the 13th of December, James Dillon, who has been connected with this lighthouse for the last 19 years, being about to leave his

situation to take another, a man named William Graham, who had been engaged on the Breakwater, was sent to relieve him. Graham had been landed at the lighthouse, and Dillon had just entered the boat, in which were two other men, to row to the yacht *Trinity*, not far distant, when two very heavy seas, one coming over the flat, and the other over the Sadler Rock, careered towards one another; they met near the boat with fearful violence, the sea boiled with agitation, the boat was capsized, and the three poor fellows were left struggling in the waves. Intelligence of the circumstance was communicated by the men in the lighthouse to the people on board the *Trinity* yacht, who came to the rescue of the drowning men as soon as possible, and picked up two of the sufferers; but before they arrived at the scene of the disaster the men in the lighthouse had succeeded in getting James Dillon out of the waves, with which he had been buffeting a quarter of an hour: he was nearly dead. This is the first time such an accident has occurred since the erection of this invaluable lighthouse; and what makes it still more singular is, the fact that it was the last trip which Dillon was to make to the shore from his old habitation. He was placed on board the yacht, which was not able to effect a landing until the 20th of December, when Dillon was at last taken on shore and put under medical treatment. He has since entirely recovered, and has gone to Ilasborough to enter on his new situation.

SOCIAL, SANITARY, AND MUNICIPAL PROGRESS.

AN important meeting, connected with the subject of *Education*, has been held at Edinburgh. Dr. Gunn, an eminent and successful teacher, had been recently nominated by government to the office of inspector of dissenting schools in Scotland. That appointment the Free Church Election Committee thought proper to *veto*. This extraordinary step against a respected member of their own section of the Presbyterian Church gave rise to a public dinner, given to him at the Waterloo Rooms, and attended by the leading promoters of education in Edinburgh, lay and clerical, and by many who sympathise with them, some even from England. Mr. Sheriff Gordon presided; and the whole proceedings of the meeting were an emphatic expressing of esteem for Dr. Gunn's character, and approbation of his conduct.

The first soirée of the *Printers' Dramatic Society* was held at Anderton's Hotel on Saturday evening, the 28th ult., and was attended by above seventy persons (including a fair proportion of ladies), chiefly in connexion with the printing profession. Mr. W. H. Wills, who presided on the occasion, described the origin and rise of the society, and explained its object to be to assist the funds of the charitable institutions of the printing trade from the proceeds of amateur dramatic performances. To commemorate the success of the society, it had been determined to hold this social meeting. The party were entertained throughout the evening by the vocal and dramatic efforts of a number of amateurs, male and female, in a style which, in many instances, would have done no discredit to regular professionals. Some madrigals and glees were charmingly sung, and altogether, the vocal department was most creditably sustained. Several appropriate sentiments were given during the proceedings, and a vote of thanks to the chair closed a pleasant evening's entertainment.

The business of the Executive Committee of the *Great Exhibition* was on the 30th of December formally transferred from Palace Yard to the Building in Hyde Park. Professor Cowper gave a lecture, in the building, on the following day, when a great number of the members of the Society of Arts assembled to inspect it. He gave a most interesting account of its construction, and conclusively demonstrated its perfect safety.—A meeting of the council of appeal of the Metropolitan Commissioners was held on the 21st inst. at the rooms of the Society of Arts. Some preliminary discussion took place as to certain points of arrangement of the objects in

the Exhibition, turning upon the proper application of the terms "wall" and "counter" space, and upon the construction and dimension of counters, and it was agreed that a letter should be addressed by the honorary secretaries to the executive committee, requesting a more exact definition of the phrases, to be given with official authority, to rectify errors, and prevent any future misapprehension of their technical meaning. The appeals were then one by one considered, and some of them immediately adjudicated upon, whilst a greater number were referred to the re-consideration of the respective sectional committees, to be reported upon at the next meeting of the council on the 28th instant.

An important step towards a system of *Local Education*, has been taken at Manchester. A large and influential meeting was held on the 6th, to consider a scheme proposed by the Rev. Mr. Richison, for promoting education in Manchester and Salford by means of local rates. Mr. Richison bases his plan upon the fact that there is a vast amount of unoccupied school-room within these towns, which might be turned to useful account. Its leading points are stated to be these: The right of free education to be secured to every inhabitant of the two boroughs; the cost to be levied by local rates, which are never to exceed fivepence in the pound per annum; and the management is to be given to committees elected by the Municipal Councils out of their own members. A guarantee is given that the religious convictions of "all parties are to be respected and equally protected" by the arrangements that, in *all existing* schools admitted into union, "no creed or formula shall be taught to the children to which their parents or lawful guardians may in writing object;" and in *all new* schools, "no distinctive creed whatever is to be taught within the ordinary school-hours, although the daily reading of the Scriptures is to be provided for;" "the management of the latter class of schools is to be in the hands of exclusively lay persons." But the official features of the plan are the fundamental principles, "that the assistance of her Majesty's Inspectors is to be obtained in estimating the educational wants of any locality; and that no school is to be erected by the District Committees, and no land to be purchased for such purpose, without the sanction of the Committee of Privy Council on Education." The meeting adopted a resolution in favour of the plan, and appointed a general committee and a sub-committee to carry it into effect. The committee includes the names of the Bishop of Manchester, Mr. Heywood, M.P., Mr. Kershaw, M.P., the Dean of Manchester, the Rev. Hugh Stowell, and several other clergymen, both churchmen and dissenters.

A public meeting was held at Manchester on the 8th, for the *Establishment of a Free Library and Museum in that Town*. The chair was occupied by the Mayor, with whom the plan originated, and who has for some time exerted himself to obtain its accomplishment. He was supported by the Bishop and the Dean of Manchester, and there was a large assemblage of the most influential inhabitants. Resolutions for immediately carrying the scheme into effect were unanimously passed.

The committee of the *Association for Promoting the Relief of Destitution* in the Metropolis, and for improving the condition of the poor by means of parochial and district visiting, under the superintendence of the Bishop of London and the clergy, have made a report of the progress of the various provident societies in connexion with the association. During the past year, the deposits of the poor so aided were, 36 societies, 28,552 depositors, and the amount 13,366*l*. In 1845, there were only 12 societies, 3744 depositors, and the amount 1451*l*.

The *Annual Report* of Mr. Simon, the medical officer of the City of London, to the Commissioners of Sewers, published recently, is an interesting and valuable document. The following are some of its leading facts and suggestions. The rate of mortality for the City population of 125,000 has been just below 22 deaths (21·92) out of every 1000 living persons, in the year ending Sept. 28; in the preceding year it had been 30 in 1000. Some large share of the reduction has been due to circumstances beyond human control; but a sensible diminution of the causes of disease has been effected by the Commission, and a considerable portion of the improvement may be

ascribed to sanitary works effected under its auspices. Over the country under the survey of the Registrar-General, the extreme rates of mortality are 14 per 1000 the lowest, and 33·5 per 1000 as the highest; the low average belonging to a district in Northumberland, the high one to Liverpool. For the whole south-east division of England the rate is 19 per 1000. Mr. Simon asserts that "few competent persons will doubt that the mortality of London might speedily be reduced to the level of any district mortality yet recorded by the Registrar-General;" and he concludes his reasons for this belief by the statement, that during the last year "there was one sub-district of the City of London Union—one comprising from 12,000 to 13,000 inhabitants—in which, after including a due proportion of deaths which had occurred in the union workhouse at Mile End, the mortality stood at only 15 in the thousand; one in which, if those extramural deaths had been excluded, the local death-rate for the year would have been only 13·32." A detailed consideration of the sickness and mortality of his reports discloses some points of interest in respect to the ages at which death occurs, the particular causes of death, and the very important local differences of death-rate. The City of London appears to be peculiarly fatal to infant life. Of the whole 3799 deaths last year, 1318 occurred under the age of five years; of the whole 2752 deaths this year, 1032 occurred under the age of five years. In the City of London Union, the deaths of infants under five years old was 1·266 of the whole deaths, though their class numbers only 1·11·09 of the whole population; so that they died at more than four times (4·17) the rate which should have befallen them as participants in the average mortality of their district. This rate is not caused by inappropriate diet, for it is highest during the first year of birth, while the child depends for nourishment on its mother. Inasmuch as the few days of these children are passed chiefly within doors, their high mortality gives the least fallacious index of the unwholesomeness of the dwellings in which they die, and affords the correctest material to judge the sanitary condition of a district. Upwards of 1200 of the deaths in the past two years have been due to cholera and epidemic causes which were unavoidable; a large number beyond were referable to local and removable causes. It is notable that "the proportionate mortality from scarlatina, measles, and hooping-cough, is greatest where the general death-rate is greatest." Among infants, too, under similar circumstances, other diseases not commonly accounted specific, assume a frequency and mortality warranting the belief that they are of endemic and avoidable origin. The hydrocephalus, convulsions, diarrhoea, bronchitis, and pneumonia, often referred to the irritation of teething, "prevail in district localities, with so marked a proportion to the causes of other endemic disease, that we may be sure of their partial and considerable dependence on those local causes." The local differences of death-rate are strikingly exemplified by comparison of the healthiest with the unhealthiest wards of the city. In Cordwainers' Ward not a single death, and in Cornhill Ward only two deaths, occurred from epidemic, endemic, or infectious diseases; in the ward of Cripplegate Without there were 299, of Bishopgate Without, 329, of Farringdon Without, 845. The local predilections of cholera are marked and obstinate; they are not identical, with those of fever. Many of the worst fever-nests were unaffected by it, while it visited spacious and airy houses along the main thoroughfare of the City, and inhabited by opulent tradesmen, members of the professions, and officers of assurance companies,—as along the lines of Fleet Street, Ludgate Hill, Farringdon Street, and New Bridge Street. The conditions of its local preference seem to be these:—"A peculiar condition of soil, of which dampness is one sure and invariable character, and organic decomposition (promoted by dampness) probably another. Its local affinities have much analogy to those of ague, and often appear identical in their range with the sphere of malarious infection." These conditions are exactly supplied by Farringdon and New Bridge Street—the line of the Old-bourne (whence Holborn) or river Fleet, now converted into a great sewer, and by the districts on the other side of London Wall from Bishopsgate to Aldersgate—a district described by Stow

as in olden times "moorish, rotten ground, impassable but for cawsaies purposely made to that intent"—"a fenne or moore, made maine and hard ground by divers sluices." In the second division of his report, Mr. Simon offers suggestions under the head of drainage, water-supply, offensive and injurious trades, burial-grounds, and the habitations and social condition of the poor. With respect to drainage, Mr. Simon, upon the authority of Stow, supported by professional observation of the nature of the prevalent diseases in those localities, thinks it highly probable that some of the sanitary defects of Cripplegate and Bishopsgate "depend less on defective house-drainage than on a still marshy undrained condition of the ground itself; and that these defects, including the liability to cholera, would be removed by an efficient application of subsoil drainage." He therefore recommends the adoption of measures to relieve the parts where the subsoil drainage is imperfect, and for protecting the house-foundations, and sewers, and subsoil adjacent to the river, from being soaked or flooded by the tide. He considers how far the offensive exhalations from sewers, which are not and cannot be entirely prevented by the best sorts of stench-traps, can be nullified by chemical means: he believes chemical means are not available to abolish the annoyance, but that the observance of some good cardinal principles would greatly abate it. The third and last division of his report gives a connected series of suggestions for embodiment in the act of parliament under which the commission has its powers.

The War Office has adopted a measure calculated to encourage *Intelligence and good Conduct in Private Soldiers*, by affording them the means of obtaining situations as clerks in the several military offices on foreign stations. A circular has been issued to the generals or other officers in command, containing the following instructions:—"That, on the occurrence of a vacancy among the clerks in the several military offices within your command, you will apply to the commanding-officer of any regiment on the station, to recommend to you a steady and intelligent soldier capable of filling the same. After a period of probation not exceeding three months, this soldier, if confirmed as fit for the situation, shall be removed from his regiment and be attested for general service, in order that while holding his office he shall continue to be a soldier in the army, and liable, if removed from his appointment for irregularity or incapacity, to be ordered to military duty with any regiment then on the station. Any man so confirmed in his appointment will have the rank and pay of serjeant, with clothing, rations, lodging, and fuel, and light, or with money allowances in lieu thereof; and will have the chance of rising in some of the offices, by succession, to the senior clerkship, in which event he will be entitled to the rank, pay, and allowances of serjeant-major. The service, as clerk, of any soldier confirmed in the appointment, will be allowed to reckon towards pension as non-commissioned officer."

The seventh anniversary meeting of the *Union Wevs Ragged School* was held on the 21st at the Hanover Square Rooms, Lord Dudley Stuart in the chair. The report for the last year gave an interesting account of the progress of the school. The following are some of its chief points:—The income of the school had enabled the committee to liquidate the debt owing to the late treasurer, and also to effect much good in the school by engaging a more competent master for the week-day classes, and in establishing a shoemaker's class in addition to a tailoring class; and they hoped that an increased subscription would soon permit them to commence a day school and an infant school, for which there was not at present sufficient funds. The attendance on Sundays for the past year had been, for the six summer months, 81; for the six winter months, 145; average for the year, 113; namely, 70 boys and 43 girls. The decreased number was probably owing to the stricter discipline which was now kept, and which prevented idlers from entering only for the purpose of annoying the others and having what they called "a lark." The number of children whose names had been placed on the books after an attendance of three Sundays was 370. Of these 110 could read in various degrees of proficiency; 146

could read imperfectly, and 114 could not read at all; while many knew not how to spell their own names. The total number that had passed through the school was 636, out of which there were 169 who had only attended once during the year. The average attendance for the week evenings had been 33 boys and 37 girls; total, 70. The rule was more strictly enforced, which gave value to the weekly evening instruction, by making admission to the school dependent upon good behaviour on Sundays. The children so admitted were those really desirous of learning; and, consequently, were not disturbed by the misconduct of others, who came with very different intentions when all comers were promiscuously admitted. Here the report contained details tending to disprove the supposition that parents able to avail themselves of other sources of education, and to pay the charge of it, availed themselves of the ragged schools. Many instances had occurred of girls having obtained situations from the school. There were on the books the names of ten girls between the ages of seven and ten years who, when admitted, could not hold a needle, and were now able to work very neatly. The library, though scanty, was valued by the scholars, and donations of books would be thankfully received. The number of Bibles sold to the children during the last year was 23; of prayer books, 5; and of hymn books, 7; besides a great number of small publications at a halfpenny each. The committee of the Ragged School Union, although the government still refused to encourage emigration among the attendants at these schools, had raised a special fund to aid the different schools in effecting so desirable an object. Still the funds were inadequate for so important an object. The report here gave an account of the successful progress of a boy belonging to this school, who had been enabled to emigrate, and who was the fourth scholar who had been sent out from the school.

Mr. W. Locke, the honorary secretary of the Ragged School Union, entered into many details respecting the progress of the system, describing the founding of schools in different parts of the country, and the advantages which had been derived from them to the district; as in Aberdeen, Dublin, and other places. There were now from 90 to 100 ragged schools in existence, and about 150 paid teachers. London alone had about 1000 voluntary teachers, and, not only that, but a large number of highly influential persons actively employed themselves on behalf of these schools. He related instances of some who had received education in them, and had emigrated, and were now earning 4s. 6d. per day wages; and when he pictured the state of comparative prosperity to which these poor creatures had been raised through the means and agency of ragged schools, he exhorted the meeting to remember that those unfortunate children had been the very scum and refuse of society, picked, as it were, out of the gutters and kennels. The schools, he said, were all generally flourishing, and nothing was wanted but increased funds. The following gentlemen were appointed the committee for the year:—Messrs. Barnard, C. Compton, Dart, Godsell, Luke J. Hansard, Harvey, Hepburn, D. D. Hepham, Lowe, Murray, C. W. Priestly, Short; Mr. J. G. Priestly being the secretary.

The *Cultivation of Cotton in India* was the principal subject which engaged the attention of the annual meeting of the Manchester Commercial Association on the 21st. Two gentlemen, Mr. Mackay and Mr. Lees, the one sent out by the Manchester Chamber of Commerce and the other by the above association, are now in India, actively employed in the necessary inquiries and experiments. Mr. Lees, who has taken up his position on the south-eastern coast of the Peninsula; has made detailed reports respecting the fitness of the climate, the amount of taxation and other burdens on cultivation, the cost of carriage, the willingness of the natives to engage in a new species of cultivation, and the prospects of profit; and, from the information gathered from these reports, there was reason to believe (in the words of Mr. Aspinall, the chairman of the meeting) "that from the district of Tutecorin, within 50 or 60 miles of Cape Comorin, up to Madras, there was absolutely a cotton California."

The *National Public School Association*, recently

founded at Manchester, on the basis of the late Lancashire Public School Association, held its annual meeting on the 22nd; and Mr. Cobden and Mr. Milner Gibson, having accepted invitations to be present, there was a very large attendance of members and friends of both sexes. Mr. Cobden, in moving the first resolution,—“That the present aspect of the educational question gives high testimony to the value of the efforts of this association, and promises a complete and speedy triumph,” addressed the meeting at great length in support of the principles of the association. He contended for the necessity of separating religious education from secular instruction, and that if there was a time when it was especially desirable to try the experiment it was the present. “We have arrived,” he said, “at that period when all the world is agreed that secular education is a good thing for society. All agreed that it is a good thing that English boys and girls should be taught to read and write and spell, and as much grammar as they can possibly imbibe. There is no difference of opinion about putting the elements of knowledge into the minds of every child in this land, if it can be done. But while we are united on that point, can any one who moves in society for a moment conceal from himself that we have also arrived at a time when we have probably more religious discord impending over us than at any other period of our history? When I speak of religious discord, I don’t mean merely the dissensions between the Roman Catholics and Protestants; I will not allude to them except so far as they lead to schisms and controversies in the internal state of other religious bodies. But I think there is, no doubt, at this moment looming in the distance, and not in the very remote distance either, a schism in the Church of England itself. You have two parties in that Church, the one perhaps stronger than the other in numbers, but the other far more strong in intellect and logic, which are going to divide the church. Then I see the Wesleyan body also torn asunder by a schism which the most sanguine can hardly hope to see healed. I do not think several other religious bodies are perfectly tranquil in their internal organisation. Now, while we have the prospect of these great internal dissensions in religious bodies, and while we are all agreed that secular education is a desirable thing, would it be desirable if it could be effected, if it were practicable—which I believe it is not—that our national system of education should be one united and bound up with the religious organisations, and by which the schisms which prevail in the churches must necessarily be transferred with increased virulence to the schools? For bear in mind, that what you see now pervading the churches in Scotland, where you have an irreconcilable dispute with regard to the appointment of masters to the parochial schools of Scotland—a dispute between the old kirk and the free kirk—recollect, if what I say be correct, when you have an impending schism in the Anglican church, you will have precisely the same difficulty in the appointment of masters. In one parish the high church party will predominate, and will dwell upon the necessity of the master observing all the old forms of our church, and enforcing all the old ritual and observances prescribed by the Liturgy and Canons; and, on the other hand, you will have the low church party dwelling upon the more vital essence of religion, and encouraging the discontinuance of those forms which the other party regard as of greater importance. And depend upon it, that while these discords pervade the church, you will have them in the schools also; you will have to fight the battle again and again to reconcile the various religious bodies, and in the end you will find yourselves obliged to return to the secular system which has been adopted in the United States and in Holland.” Mr. Cobden proceeded to show the increasing application of these principles in the formation of schools throughout the country, and concluded by advising the association to pursue its own course steadily, showing no opposition to anybody, but inviting the concurrence of every one.—Mr. Milner Gibson afterwards addressed the meeting in seconding the resolution, and it was carried unanimously.

The executive committee, in anticipation of the immense addition to the *Population of London during*

the Exhibition, and with a view to the necessary precautions on that account, have been in communication with the city police, to ascertain the exact traffic of foot-passengers and vehicles under ordinary circumstances. Their inquiries have given the following remarkable results:—The number of vehicles which pass daily Bow Church, Cheapside, is not less than 13,796, which contain not fewer than 52,092 persons; and within the same period of time there are not fewer than 67,510 foot passengers. Of this number of carriages it may be considered that the greatest number in one hour is about 1103, and of foot passengers in the same space of time about 5750, giving a total number of persons who pass Bow Church, Cheapside, in and with vehicles and on foot about 119,602 persons per day. The number of vehicles which pass daily to Aldgate by the Minories is 9332, containing not fewer than 20,804 persons; and during the same period the number of foot passengers is 53,430. Of the carriages the greatest number in one hour may be computed at 795; of foot passengers in the same period, 4600: the total number of persons, therefore, who pass through Aldgate by the Minories is 79,234 per day. During the month of May, the number of persons who enter the city daily on foot and in carriages is little short of 400,000.

PERSONAL NARRATIVE.

ON New Year’s Day, the *Queen made a liberal Distribution of gifts to the poor of Windsor*, of food, clothing, and coals, to the value of 250*l.*; gifts made the more acceptable by her Majesty’s kindly presence at their distribution. The band of the Horse Guards performed a serenade on the New Year’s morning.

The good effects of the *Queen’s beneficence to the Poor in the neighbourhood of Balmoral* are thus described by a local newspaper—the *Arbroath Guide*:—“The Queen, the Queen-mother, the Prince, and their interesting family, have, like summer birds, taken wings and fled to a more genial clime. Their residence amongst us, however, has done much good. A school has been founded and a school-house built at Strathgirnnoch, on the Abergeldie estate, and male and female teachers are to be placed there and provided for. The poorer description of children in the district, and those at a distance from the parochial school, are to be the pupils; and the whole at our gracious Queen’s expense. A number of neat cottages are also in course of erection near Balmoral, and at Knocks, on the Birkhall estate. The mansion of the last-mentioned property is to be enlarged for Prince Albert.”

The Queen has granted the dignity of a *Baronet of the United Kingdom* to Major-General Walter Raleigh Gilbert, G.C.B.; to Mr. James Matheson, of Lewis, in the county of Ross, and of Alchany, in the county of Sutherland; and to Mr. Richard Tufton, of Appleby Castle, in the county of Westmoreland, Skipton Castle in the county of York, and Hothfield Place, in the county of Kent. General Gilbert served with distinction in the war of the Punjaub; Mr. Matheson was formerly head of the great firm of Eastern traders—Matheson, Jardine, and Co.; Mr. Tufton is the inheritor of the vast estates of the late Earl of Thanet.

Colonel Hugh Rose, Consul-General for Syria, has been appointed Secretary of Embassy at Constantinople.

Cardinal Wiseman has received autograph letters of congratulation from the Queens of Spain and Portugal; completing the number of the Catholic Sovereigns of Europe who have addressed his Eminence on occasion of his appointment.

The *Order of the Garter*, has been conferred upon the Marquis of Normanby, in consideration of his important services as Ambassador in Paris, and in several other high offices of State.

The *Queen has granted Pensions on the Civil List of 100*l.* a-year each to Mrs. Belzoni*, the aged widow of the celebrated traveller; and to Mr. Poole, the author of Paul Fry, and of several contributions to periodical literature, who is a great sufferer from bodily infirmities.

The Queen has appointed Sir James Emerson Tennent, Knt., to be Governor of St. Helena.

The trustees of the *Owen's College, Manchester*, have appointed Dr. Edward Frankland, Ph. D., F.C.S., to the chair of Chemistry.

Lord and Lady Camden made a *Public Recantation of the Protestant faith* at Rome on New Year's Day, and were received into the Roman Catholic Church, a ceremony at which Lord and Lady Feilding were present.

The Rev. Mr. Dodsworth entered the Roman Catholic Church on New Year's Day.

The Rev. Sir Frederick Ouseley, Bart., and Sir John Harington, Bart., both of Oxford, have, it is stated, seceded from the Established Church. Sir John Harington was Mr. Bennett's churchwarden.

Father Gravazzi, an Italian priest, has been delivering, at the Princess's Concert-room, a series of lectures on *The Abuses of Popery*, which have excited much attention. His first oration, which was delivered on Sunday, the 5th inst., had for its subject the part which the Italian clergymen were called upon to play in the great drama now in course of performance in his native land; the second oration dwelt on the present position and attitude of the Popedom, and the corrupt elements of which it was composed; and the third, on Sunday, the 19th, treated of the "Holy Inquisition." He speaks in Italian with extraordinary force and eloquence; and his lectures have attracted crowded assemblages, comprising not only the exiled Italians in London, but many English auditors.

Obituary of Notable Persons.

MR. DAVID WEBSTER OSBALDISTON, the well-known theatrical manager, died on the 29th December, at his residence, Brixton.

MR. WILLIAM SEGUIN, the eminent singer, died on the 29th December, after a short illness. He was a sound musician, of pure and cultivated taste, and especially distinguished as a performer of sacred music.

MR. MAXWELL, the Irish novelist, and author of many humorous sketches in the periodical literature of the day, died on the 29th December, at Musselburgh, near Edinburgh.

MISS MARCIA FREDERICA LANE FOX, granddaughter of the late and niece of the present Duke of Leeds, died at Hornby Castle, on Christmas day. Miss Fox had been in a declining state of health for some months past. She was in her twenty-first year.

VISCOUNT ALFORD, M.P. for Bedfordshire, died on the 2nd inst. at Ashridge Park, in his 39th year.

CAPTAIN G. W. BINGHAM, R.A., died on the 10th of October, at Ceylon, where he was acting in command of the Royal Artillery at that station. He had nearly completed twenty-six years' service.

GENERAL BEM died at Aleppo on the 11th December, after a short illness. He died a Mussulman, and thus received all the honours due to his rank.

MAJOR GLEME, the Governor of Tobago, died on the 14th December, of paralysis.

VISCOUNT DA TORRE DE MONCORVO, who has so worthily

filled for many years the important office of Ambassador of Portugal at this Court, died on the 11th inst., after a painful illness.

CAPT. SIR HENRY MARTIN BLACKWOOD, in command of her Majesty's ship *Vengeance*, 84, at Portsmouth, died suddenly on the 7th, in his 50th year.

PRINCE PAUL ALEXANDER LEOPOLD, of Lippe Detmold, died on New Year's day, in the 50th year of his age. He is succeeded by the Crown Prince Paul Frederick Leopold, aged thirty, a major in the Prussian army.

GENERAL SIR JAMES WILLOUGHBY GORNO, G.C.B., G.C.H.I., the Quartermaster-General to the Forces, died on the 4th. He had held the above situation nearly forty years.

JOHN WILMOT, Esq., the eminent horticulturist, and President of the Market Gardeners' Society, died on the 2nd inst., at the Union Hotel, Cockspur-street.

T. S. DAVIES, Esq., F.R.S., London and Edinburgh, and F.A.S., died at Broomhall College, Shooter's Hill, on the 6th inst., in the 57th year of his age.

MR. GEORGE DRUMMOND, one of the partners in the banking firm at Charing-cross, died suddenly on Sunday the 5th. He had attended Divine service, and remained to partake of the sacrament; after which he returned to his residence in Wilton-crescent. On entering the drawing-room, he sat down in an arm chair, and was about to partake of some luncheon, when he raised his hand suddenly to his head, and exclaiming, "Oh, my God!" sunk down in an unconscious state. Medical assistance was instantly sent for, but he had ceased to live before the arrival of the family surgeon. He was in his 49th year.

DR. H. VIVIAN, Regius Professor of Medicine at Cambridge, died on the 5th, at his residence in that city, in his 66th year.

THE REV. LORD WILLIAM SOMERSET died at Clifton on the 14th inst., in the 67th year of his age. He was son of the fifth, and uncle to the present duke of Beaufort.

FIELD-MARSHAL THOMAS GROSVENOR died at his house, Mount Ararat, near Richmond, on the 20th inst., in his 57th year. He was the son of Thomas Grosvenor, Esq. (who was brother to the first Earl Grosvenor), and consequently first cousin of the late Marquis of Westminster.

HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF NEWCASTLE, K.G., died at Clumber Park, Nottinghamshire, on Sunday, the 12th inst., after a long and painful illness. He was born on the 30th January, 1785, and succeeded to the family honours as the fourth duke, on the death of his father, in 1795.

THE MARQUIS OF HASTINGS died in Dublin on the 17th, at the age of 19.

LORD BUCHERHUI, the eldest son of the Earl of Westmoreland, died on the 22nd inst., in the 27th year of his age.

LORD ROBERT TAYLOR died at the barracks, Fermoyle, on the 19th, in consequence of the breaking of a blood-vessel on the lungs. It appears that his lordship was walking in the town of Fermoyle, when he saw a man beating a dog. On remonstrating with him, the man struck Lord Robert a blow, which he instantly returned, and then said, "I am choking with blood." After lingering some days, he died without pain or suffering. Lord Robert was the second son of the Marquis of Headfort, and had only recently exchanged from the Guards to the 49th Regiment.

LORD DALMENY, eldest son of the Earl of Rosebery, died on the 23rd inst., at Dalmeny Park, Linlithgowshire, in his 42nd year.

REAR-ADMIRAL RYE died on the 18th inst., aged 86. He was one of the few survivors of the battle of the Nile, which took place while he was Lieutenant of the *Orion*.

COLONIES AND DEPENDENCIES.

THERE is nothing very notable in the Colonial news of the month, but the last mail from India seems to indicate a strong renewal of the old agitation against the judicial courts of the East India Company. The cholera in Jamaica is not yet known to have abated; but the packet which left England at the commencement of the month took out not only ample stores and remedies, but six surgeons from the Admiralty, and three medical inspectors from the Board of Health. It is very sad that such provisions should have succeeded instead of anticipating the event provided for, and it will be well if we apply the warning to our sanitary affairs at home.

The *Bombay* mail has brought accounts to the 17th of December. They are politically unimportant, tranquillity prevailing throughout our Indian empire. The health of the troops in the Punjab and Upper Provinces is but little improved. According to the published returns for the week ending the 21st November, there were 1204 men in hospital out of the 7448 composing the garrison of Lahore; nearly half of one regiment (the 1st European Fusiliers) were on the sick-list; and in the 4th Punjab Infantry, 406 out of 894 were in hospital.

A Court-martial on Major Bartleman, of the 44th Native Infantry, had found him "guilty of conduct

unbecoming the character of an officer and a gentleman, in having at Barrackpore, in pursuance of an endeavour to seduce the affections of Mrs. Shelton, wife of Lieutenant Shelton, 38th Light Infantry, written to her on or about the 22nd of August, 1850, a highly unbecoming note." The Court had sentenced him to be cashiered, but had recommended him to mercy on the ground of Major Bartleman's long services, and on the ground that his fault, "however reprehensible, has still not always been considered as necessarily subversive of military discipline." Sir Charles Napier had confirmed the sentence, with sharp animadversions on the recommendation to mercy, as an endeavour by the Court "to

throw upon the Commander-in-chief the odium of refusing that which its own sentence renders impossible for him to grant without insulting the officers of the Bengal Army in general and those of the 41th in particular."

Sir W. Gomm arrived at Calcutta and assumed command of the Indian Army on the 6th of December. Sir Charles Napier was at Loodiana on the 30th of November, and was expected at Bombay about the end of the year. During his eighteen months' administration, forty-five officers of the Bengal Army have been brought to trial, of whom fourteen have been cashiered, six dismissed, seven have lost rank, five have been suspended, and ten reprimanded; only two have been honourably acquitted, one simply acquitted, and four pardoned or their sentence commuted.

The accounts from Ceylon are to the 12th of December. The new Governor, Sir George Anderson, met the Legislative for the first time on the 4th. His address made a favourable impression. He spoke with satisfaction of the prevailing tranquillity, and of the prospect of a prosperous revenue; and expressed his hope of being able, at no distant period, to lessen the burdens of the people by lessening taxation; "the imperative duty," he said, "of all governments." It is generally understood in the island, that the governor has received orders to reside frequently in Kandy, instead of making Colombo always his residence. Almost all the Europeans reside there, on coffee estates, and most of the European capital has been expended there. This province is also the latest of our native possessions. These reasons combined, added to the coolness and salubrity of the climate, point it out as the most eligible seat of government.

The intelligence from the *Cape of Good Hope* is important. In consequence of an apprehended inroad of the Kaffirs, Sir Harry Smith proceeded rapidly to King William's Town, and was unexpectedly present at a Kaffir meeting held there on the 26th of October. A number of chiefs were assembled, but the celebrated Sandilli was absent. The chiefs protested that they preferred being under the British rule, and having their property protected, to living like monkeys in the bush. Sandilli's brother said that he had not come because a fall from his horse had hurt him and made him unable to rise. Sir Harry Smith answered—That was a lie; Sandilli was afraid. "But," said Sir Harry, "tell him I do not wish to hurt him; let him come in as my son; I will protect him." On mentioning the rumours that were spread abroad in the colony, Sir H. Smith wished to know who had thus alarmed the colonists; he understood they had originated with the native Gaika tribes. He was surprised that they should be such fools as to believe in such a fool—a boy prophet who was covered all over with grease, and as black as a coal. If they were not happy, continued his Excellency, and wanted war, he would make war (holding up a long stick with a brass nail at the end, called generally the stick of peace). "I will make war, and bring my troops from Cape Town in four days, as I came myself; and I will drive you all over the Kei, and get Krii to drive you to the Umzimvoobo, and I will be there too—I was there once; and you know it—and then get Faku to drive you further; and then you will be scattered over the earth as beasts of the field and vagabonds. But the good I will protect and assist, and be their father. I will kill every one that will not fight on my side. There is a God above; he knows all things." There were about 350 Kaffirs in all; and the meeting separated peaceably, his Excellency inviting the chiefs into the house. The chiefs were very humble, and came forward at His Excellency's request to shake hands with him, as a token of peace and allegiance to the Queen, as British subjects. A few days after this meeting, Sir Harry Smith issued a proclamation deposing Sandilli from his rank and authority as a chief, and appointing Mr. Charles Brownlee, commissioner for the Gaika tribe, to assume the direct control of Sandilli's tribes, under the instructions of Colonel M'Kinnon, the chief commissioner of British Kaffraria.

The *West India Mail* has brought intelligence from the different colonies to the end of December. In

Jamaica the cholera was committing fearful ravages on the north side of the island—particularly at Montego Bay and Falmouth. On the south side it was abating, and had almost entirely disappeared from Kingston. In the agricultural districts in all parts of the country the greatest mortality had taken place, whole properties having become almost entirely depopulated. The injury that must result to the agricultural interest is incalculable. Crops on the ground, some of which promised to yield abundantly, cannot be taken off for the want of labour. The Boards of Health of the different places were meeting regularly for the purpose of adopting measures for the relief of the sufferers and to prevent the spread of the scourge. The legislature stood adjourned to the 14th of January. The council, as well as the house had decided on memorialising her Majesty, praying for the introduction of African immigrants.

In *British Guiana*, the Court of Policy had been engaged on several important measures, but stood adjourned to the 13th of January. Among other business transacted, bills establishing a new department of the public service, the office of Auditor-General of Accounts, for the examination of the litigated accounts of the courts of justice, and of all public accounts generally, and providing for the holding of inferior criminal courts in Essequibo by one of the puisne judges, were advanced a stage. An ordinance had also been passed for constituting boards of health for Georgetown and New Amsterdam, to guard against the contingency of a visit from cholera.

A serious military riot had taken place at *Berbice*. The police arrested some soldiers, and took them to the station-house; a body of the companions of the prisoners came down on the station-house, attacked the police, and the inhabitants who joined them, and were only prevented from effecting a rescue by the arrival of the Commander-in-chief and the officers of the corps. Many persons received serious wounds.

The accounts from the other colonies are unimportant. In most of them sanitary measures had been adopted in anticipation of the cholera.

Throughout the *Australian Colonies* there is a growing agitation against the transportation system. In New South Wales, large meetings upon the subject have been held, both at Sydney and in the interior. In Van Diemen's Land there have been meetings in all the districts of the island, at which the public feeling has been strongly and unanimously expressed. The course of action agreed to by all the meetings is to remonstrate with the Colonial Office against the continuance of transportation, and the system of misrepresentation of colonial sentiment in the imperial parliament which had been systematically pursued by Earl Grey; and also to pledge themselves, in example of the people of the Cape, not to employ convicts. Meanwhile, the government partisans and pro-transportation party was not inactive. An attempt had been made to get up a petition in favour of the continuance of transportation in a modified form, but the manœuvre was promptly met by the anti-transportation association issuing an address, cautioning the colonists against attaching their names to any document of the kind until it had been printed and publicly discussed.

The session of the legislative council of *New South Wales* was adjourned on October 2nd. During its sittings the principal acts passed were those for establishing and endowing a university for Sydney, for improving the organisation of the police, for regulating the corporation of Sydney, and for confirming certain presbyterian marriages. The result of the transportation debate was the adoption of measures with the view of pledging the Secretary of State that convictism should not be resumed.

The news that *Port Philip* was to be erected into a distinct and independent colony had been joyfully received at Melbourne. It was not decided whether the event should be commemorated by illuminations, or by the establishment of an orphan or female emigration asylum, or of a college. A cathedral church has been founded, and it is proposed to erect a town-hall in Melbourne, at a cost of 2000l.

John Wroe, the founder of a sect called the "Beardies," from their partiality to hairy barbarism, has arrived in Melbourne. He is described as a man of eighty years of age, but hale and strong; and announces that he has a divine mission to preach in the colonies. He commenced operations by preaching in the "Sanctuary" on Sunday, the 15th September, whither all the members of this new sect resorted.

A species of Thuggism, it appears, exists among the blacks of the Darling, by which numerous wayfarers and stragglers, as well as shepherds in isolated situations, have been sacrificed. An aboriginal had made revelations which led to the discovery and exhumation of five bodies, all of white men, and each in the last stage of decomposition, the identity of their persons being completely obliterated. The squatters of the colony had been completely startled by a recent land purchase. For the first time since the passing of the Crown Land Sales Act, the power thereby given of purchasing by private contract 20,000 acres, or more, at the minimum price, had been brought into play by W. J. T. Clarke, Esq., who bought up a tract of 20,000 acres of land at Mount Macedon, including the principal stations of several eminent squatters, utterly destroying the tenure of these parties, who must either purchase or abandon their stations. The squatters are resolved to litigate the matter, conceiving that the imperial act (5 and 6 Vict., c. 36) only empowers the governor to sell any block of "unsurveyed land" comprising 20,000 acres, or more, and that the land in dispute does not come within that definition.

The Adelaide Journals show the rapid progress of *South Australia*. As exhibiting the growing commercial importance of the port of Adelaide, the following analysis is made of the shipping on the 25th of October last. The ships and vessels from British, extra-colonial and foreign ports, amount to 12,750, and are manned by 556 officers and seamen. The vessels employed in the coasting trade of the colony are 955 tons, navigated by 84 men; and the vessels employed by the local government are 730 tons, with 47 men. The last-mentioned service includes a steam-tug, which is of incalculable advantage to the mercantile interests of the colony by expediting and facilitating the larger arrivals and departures. At the port only the population numbered about 6000 souls. The Burra Burra had published their half-yearly report of the mining association, and declared a dividend, making 3 dividends of 200 per cent. for the year. It is stated that at no time have the mines been in a more flourishing condition, or have the general prospects of the company afforded such ground for congratulation.

From *New Zealand* the principal article of news is the death of the celebrated native chief, Heke, the ever active enemy of the Europeans, which took place in August last. The following letters, the last written by him to the governor, will be read with interest; they are characteristic of the old chief, who, on the eve of death, charged the young men to "sit in peace for ever," as war was a game at which all parties were losers.

Kaikohe, 30th of the days of May, 1850.

O Friend the Governor!—Salutations to you. Your loving or affectionate letter has reached me. Lo! this is my loving letter to you. Yes, my illness is great, but do not be dark or sorrowful: this is not the permanent place for the body. The thought is with God as regards us both, or we are at the disposal of God. My words to you will not be many more, as I am very ill. Present my love to your companion, Lady Grey. Salutations to you and to your companion.—From your loving friend,

(Signed) HONE WIREMU HEKE POKAI.

Tantoro, 4th of the days of July, 1850.

O Friend the Governor!—Your letter of the 1st of July has reached me; I have seen it. Are you not willing to have a vessel sent hither, so that I may ship some cattle for you? If the vessel comes, and a letter from you, I will send you four head of cattle. It will not be safe to ship the cattle on board Kanam's vessel, as I got myself into difficulty on a former occasion in sending you my pigs. I went to Pahiia, and conversed with the Major, but he would not provide a vessel. I therefore say to you, arrange this matter yourself, because your love to me is very great; but as regards my love to you, it has not been openly shown, or you have not had any token of my love to you. This is the reason why I say let me give you four head of cattle, as a proof of my love to you.—From your friend,

(Signed) HONE WIREMU HEKE POKAI.

PROGRESS OF EMIGRATION AND COLONISATION.

A *Female Emigration Association* has been formed at Hobart Town, Van Diemen's Land. At a preliminary meeting (held on the 26th of August last) a committee was appointed, with power to add to their number, for organising the Association. It is called the Tasmanian Female Emigration Association, and it was resolved, "that its primary object shall be to co-operate with the association formed in England by the Right Hon. Sidney Herbert; that a home be at once provided for the purposes of this association; that the home shall, so far as may be consistent with the primary object of this association, be made available for all female emigrants of good character; and that subscription lists be opened to receive the contributions of the colonists for carrying out the objects of this association." A general meeting of the committee was held on the 2nd of September, when Lady Denison, Lady Pedden, and Mrs. Nixon, were named patronesses; steps were also taken to form a ladies' committee, to engage a suitable building, and to make the other necessary arrangements. The committee numbers no less than 54 influential gentlemen; and on the 20th of September the amount of 161*l.* 16*s.* of annual subscriptions had been contributed by 35 individuals.

The following statement has been published respecting the *Emigration from the River Clyde in the year 1850*, from which it appears that it has nearly equalled that of 1849, which far exceeded any previous year. The total numbers emigrating from the Clyde in 1850 were 14,206, and their destinations were—

To the United States	11,230
To Canada	2,388
To the Australian Colonies	300
To Port Natal	121
To other Ports	167

14,206

The greater portion of the Scotch emigrants were small farmers and tradesmen, particularly working engineers, and, generally speaking, they were able to secure a comfortable passage, and take some little means with them. The great majority of the Irish emigrants went out under apparently very wretched circumstances, but nevertheless there were some of them known to carry out amongst their rags sums varying in amount from 10*l.* to 50*l.* and upwards. The emigrants for Australia, Canada, and the Cape were of a vastly superior class to those going to the States. The amount of money taken to the States by these emigrants was nearly 40,000*l.*, to Canada about 10,000*l.*, and to Australia about 2,000*l.* The number of emigrants from the Clyde in 1849 was 14,986, of whom the destinations were as follows, viz.:—

To the United States	10,636
To Canada	3,301
To Australia	691
To the Cape of Good Hope	124
To the East and West Indies, &c.	144

14,986

We have the peculiarity now that the emigration continues regularly throughout the winter, although it was formerly confined to the summer. The emigration from the Clyde during the last seven years has been at the following rate:—

1844	3,568	1848	10,035
1845	3,445	1849	14,968
1846	2,820	1850	14,206
1847	7,728		

A meeting of the friends of the *Ragged Schools* was held at the Juvenile Refuge in Westminster, on the evening of the 17th, for the purpose of taking leave of 11 boys, selected from the various ragged schools in the metropolis, who are about to be sent out to Australia, at the cost of the Ragged School Union. The ceremony took place in the presence of the children, 100 in number, taught in the Refuge, who were regaled with tea and cake in company with the friends who attended. The eleven intending emigrants were arranged on a form on the left of the chair, and were neatly and cleanly attired. Each was provided with a capacious chest, for the purpose of containing their clothes and other necessaries, which had been supplied by the Ragged School Union. Mr. Gent, of the Ragged School

Union, gave some particulars respecting the boys. Of the eleven, who were all well recommended, three were from the school held in that place; three from the school in Grotto Place, Marylebone; two from the school in John Street, Mint; two from North Street, Mile-

end; and one from the Ann Street Dormitory. Five of these would be landed at Port Adelaide, the other six at Port Philip. The cost of sending them out would be upwards of 200*l.*, the whole of which had been raised and paid over to the parties who would send them out.

NARRATIVE OF FOREIGN EVENTS.

THE great incident of the month in continental politics is the split between Louis Napoleon and the French Assembly. It is possible that good may come of it, on the principle of the old proverb about rogues falling out; but it requires a large amount of hopefulness to discover any kind of prospect of good for France just now. One thing is certain however, and as certainly was not anticipated by either of the combative parties in the recent strife—the Republican form established in '48 has received singular and unexpected reinforcement from the very measures devised to overthrow it. Even M. Thiers perceives it now to be the only system with a chance of durability in it, and M. Louis Napoleon has surrendered for the present his fitful Imperial dream.

There has been a curious clash of another kind between two angry foreign potentates, which it is impossible not to regard with yet greater satisfaction. Decrepit old Austria has shaken her fist at lusty young America, and received for her pains what the slang of the ring would denominate a "regular snasher." It seems that the late President of America had dispatched a diplomatic agent to Hungary during the troubles, accredited to obtain trustworthy reports of the state of the country and its prospects of resistance; and that Prince Schwartzburg discovering this fact among the official papers published at Washington (wherein, also, the Austrian rule was called an "iron" one, and Kossuth an "illustrious" person), straightway let off an explosive mission against the American government, broadly hinting at retaliation, and affirming that if the agent in question had been discovered he would most probably have been hanged as a spy. To this Mr. Webster responds, that America had owed its existence as a nation to precisely the sort of resistance stigmatised by Austria as rebellion. That the father of the nation, Washington, had been exactly in the position of Kossuth. Further, that America most strongly sympathises in consequence, and means to continue to do so, with every struggle that has for its object the wresting of power from despotic governments. Also, that the dominion of the Republic, in the name of which he writes, is spread over the most rich and fertile region on the globe, and is of an extent in comparison with which the possessions of the House of Hapsburg are but a patch on the earth's surface. And finally, that supposing Prince Schwartzburg should have thought proper to treat any American as a spy, his highness might assuredly have looked for immediate hostilities to be waged by the utmost exertion of the power of the Republic, military and naval!

This is language that one cannot but feel is not only likely to be beneficial in Austria but also much nearer home. It is true that America has a broader ditch between herself and her adversaries than is possessed by the older countries of the earth, and can the better afford to be prompt and loud in the expression of her anger. But the example is a noble one not the less; because the feeling of self-assertion is real and well-founded, and there is no doubt, that, if need were, the words would take the form of deeds as strong and brave.

The political intelligence from *France* during the past month consists of the progress of a "ministerial crisis," a series of party struggles and changes of administration, which has not yet come to a close. It arose out of the dissensions between the President and General Changarnier, whose assumption of power, it appears, Louis Napoleon could no longer brook. His determination to dismiss Changarnier from the command of the army, a measure adverse to the will of the Assembly, led to the resignation of the ministry, which took place on the evening of the 3rd inst., after a meeting of the Assembly, in which General Changarnier's proceedings had been the subject of debate. Some days afterwards a conference took place between the President and a body of the leading parliamentary chiefs, in which they demanded the maintenance of Changarnier in his command, a demand with which the President peremptorily refused to comply. The President then appointed a new ministry, consisting of M. Drouyn de L'Huys, for Foreign Affairs, General St. Jean d'Angely for War, M. Docos for Marine, M. Magne for Public Works, and M. Boileau for Commerce. Of the old Cabinet, Baroche, Fould, Rouher, and Parrieu retained office. The post occupied by Gen. Changarnier was abolished; and Gen. Baraguy d'Hilliers was appointed to the command of the first military division, and Gen. Perrot of the National Guard.

The ministers met the Assembly on the 10th, and they, on the one hand, and Changarnier on the other, were loudly greeted by their respective partisans. M. de Remusat called upon the new ministers to come forward and explain why the old administration had withdrawn, and why they had replaced it. He called upon the Assembly to retire into their bureaux and devise measures commanded by the gravity of circum-

stances. M. Baroche entered into ministerial explanations in the midst of noisy interruptions; and, after a stormy debate, a ballot took place on M. Remusat's proposition, which was carried by 330 to 273. In the bureaux a committee was appointed, of which M. de Broglie was chairman; and on the 14th this committee made a report to the Assembly, recommending a resolution to the effect that "the Assembly, while acknowledging that the Executive power has made use of an incontestable right, but blaming the use which the present Cabinet has made of this right, declares that the former Commander-in-Chief has preserved all the esteem and confidence of the Assembly."

On the 15th a debate commenced on this report of the committee, which did not terminate till the evening of the 18th, when a coalition having taken place between the Conservative majority, the Republican party of General Cavaignac, and the Mountain, the ministers were defeated by a majority of 417 votes against 278, an absolute majority of 139. When the general debate had closed, the President of the Assembly read the several amendments. M. St. Beuve demanded the priority of his amendment, which was as follows:—"The Assembly declares that it has not confidence in the ministry, and passes to the order of the day." This amendment having been carried, the ministry had nothing for it but to resign.

For several days, various attempts were made to form a new ministry, but without success; till, on the 23rd, the Assembly and the public were startled by a message from the President, containing the following passages:—"In order not to prolong a painful difference, I accepted, after the late vote of the Assembly, the resignation of a ministry which had given to the country, in the cause of order, the most marked pledges of

its devotedness. Wishing, however, to form a Cabinet with a chance of duration, I could not take its elements from a majority having its origin in such exceptional circumstances; and, with regret, I found myself utterly unable to find a combination amongst the members of the minority, notwithstanding its importance. In this conjuncture, and after vain attempts, I resolved to form a transition ministry, composed of special men, not belonging to any fraction of the Assembly, and who have decided to devote themselves to affairs without any party views. The honourable men who accept this patriotic task will have a right to the gratitude of the country. The administration will consequently continue as previously. Prejudices will disappear at the remembrance of the solemn declarations of the message of November 12th. The real majority will be reconstituted; harmony will be re-established, without the two powers having sacrificed anything of the dignity which constitutes their force. France wishes above all for repose; and she expects from those to whom she has given her confidence a conciliation without weakness, a tranquil firmness, and an impossibility in what is right." The message was listened to in deep silence. There was no interruption of any kind. The uppermost feeling seemed surprise, although something of this kind was expected. Nevertheless the house was thin; but, when the circumstances got wind, many representatives thronged in from the *coulouirs*. The new ministry, whose names were published in a supplement to the *Moniteur*, is as follows:—General Randon, War; Waiss, Interior; Germiny, Finance; Magne, Public Works; Brennier, Foreign Affairs; Royer, Justice; Vaillant, Marine; Giraud, Public Instruction; Schneider, Agriculture and Commerce. Not one of the new ministers is a representative of the Assembly,—a circumstance which is hitherto without a parallel in the constitutional history of France.

There has been a *Duel* between two editors of Paris journals. An article having appeared in the *Corsaire*, reflecting on M. Hugo, one of the editors of the *Evénement*, M. Hugo (who is the son of the celebrated Victor Hugo) challenged M. Viennet, one of the editors of the *Corsaire*. In consequence of the disparity of their ages, it was agreed that M. Viennet's son should fight in his father's place. They fought with swords in the wood of Meudon, and M. Hugo was slightly wounded. The duellists and their seconds were tried before the Tribunal of Correctional Police. Viennet and his two seconds were fined 100 francs each; and M. Hugo's two seconds, one of whom was Alexandre Dumas, were fined 200 francs each. M. Dumas said in his defence, that he only consented to act as second to M. Hugo on the express wish of his father, M. Victor Hugo, that he should fight.

Considerable agitation in the Assembly has been excited by the *Arrest of M. Mauguin, one of the members, for Debt*. M. Mauguin urged his non-liability to arrest as a member of the Assembly, and demanded to be taken *en référé* before the president of the Civil Tribunal. The president declared that the arrest was legal, the constitution of 1848 not having reproduced the provision of the charter of 1830, by which members of the legislative body were protected from arrest during the session, and for six weeks preceding and following it. In the Assembly M. de Larochefajacquin put questions to the Minister of Justice respecting the arrest of M. Mauguin, and proposed to the Assembly to order his immediate liberty. He considered that the arrest in question was a violation of the constitution, which declared all members of the legislature inviolable. M. Rouher, Minister of Justice, declared that the Assembly might make a new law to regulate such a matter in future, but could not now interfere in the decision of a judge without establishing a dangerous precedent. After some discussion, the Assembly decided the question in its own favour, by adopting the motion of M. de Larochefajacquin.

On the 27th a discussion took place in the Assembly respecting a credit of 488,000*fr.* for expenses relative to the London Exhibition. M. Schœlcher had asked that the jury charged with examining the articles intended for the Exhibition should be selected by the manufacturers. M. Benoist requested M. Schœlcher to withdraw

his amendment, the plan he proposed being impracticable for want of time; and he concluded by assuring him that the jury appointed was composed of most impartial and competent men. M. Schœlcher acceded to the request. The discussion then turned on the best and least expensive means of conveying the productions to and from London; and Messrs. Raudot and Dahirel opposed the bill, because the Minister of Commerce, M. Schneider, would not pledge himself that the expenses should not exceed 488,000*fr.* The credit was ultimately voted by 603 to 70.

Spain also had a ministerial crisis. It was suddenly announced that General Narvaez had resigned on the 10th, and that the Queen had accepted his resignation. His motive was understood to have been that he felt himself unable to contend with the Court intrigues got up against him. On the same night he left Spain for Bayonne. The other Ministers also resigned, and have been replaced by a new Cabinet, consisting of M. Bravo Murillo, President of the Council and Minister of Finance; M. Beltran de Lis, Minister of Foreign Affairs; M. Ventura Gonzalez Romero, of Justice; M. Fermín Arjeta, of the Interior; M. Bustillos, of Marine; General Mirasol, of War. The Duke of Rivas having refused the Foreign Department, M. Beltran de Lis, who had been appointed Minister of Public Works, consented to accept it. It is stated that, the Queen having at first declined to accept Narvaez's resignation, he assembled his colleagues, and said to them, that, if the Queen persisted in her refusal, he was determined to blow out his brains. Terrified at these words, and the manner in which they were uttered, the Ministers hastened to the palace, and with difficulty prevailed on the Queen to accept his resignation.

The accounts from Germany remain confused and indistinct. The conferences at Dresden still proceed, but little or nothing is known of their proceedings. One account says that the new Executive Council will be composed of eleven votes, instead of seventeen; and that of these eleven, Austria and Prussia will have two each, the four minor kingdoms one each, and the thirty petty states the remaining three votes between them. By this process, says the same account, "the whole of the component parts will have a direct voice in the Executive; and if each series can agree among themselves, the fractional voice will have the greater weight, as it is understood that resolutions are to be adopted by absolute majorities." It is also believed that the Plenary Council will be entrusted with legislative powers, and be composed of plenipotentiaries nominated *ad hoc* by each of the thirty-six states of the confederation. "It is admitted at last by the Ultra-Constitutional journals, that all attempts at a nearer approach to unity at the present time are impracticable, and that years are requisite to pave the way to the realisation of that which has hitherto proved to be a mere dream."

The first trial by jury took place at Vienna on the 15th inst. The Minister of Justice, M. von Schmerling, and a crowded audience, attended this ceremony. The culprit—a girl accused of incendiarism and other offences—was found guilty, and sentenced to three years' hard labour.

On the 18th inst., the anniversary of the *Coronation* of the King of Prussia, the King held an extraordinary levee, and conferred various orders of knighthood on about 250 persons: M. Manteuffel was decorated with the order of the Red Eagle—first class. At the festival subsequently held in the palace, the King proposed the following toasts in the following characteristic speech: "Gentlemen, fill your glasses, for three toasts. The first draught we drink to the past, in which the princes and people of Prussia, bound together in faithful concord, have achieved such great things; the second to the present, especially to the whole people in arms, who, by their prompt rising up, have again proved that the disaster of the year 1848 has not infected the hearts of the people. To you, gentlemen, whom I have decorated with orders for your devoted loyalty, and have the pleasure to-day to receive as my guests, this draught is also devoted. The third is for the future. Few of us will outlive the next fifty years, but we all desire

that they may be years of pure blessing for this royal house and this brave people. Once again, gentlemen, 'The Past, the Present, and the Future.'"

It will be remembered that, some months ago, several Circassian cavalry soldiers deserted from the Russian army in Poland and came over to Prussia to serve in the war which, they heard, was about to commence. They were ordered to deliver up their arms and surrender till the Prussian authorities should decide as to sending them back. This they refused; and on force being used they shut themselves up in a farm-house, where they made an heroic defence, in which several Circassians and Prussians were killed. The survivors were at length made prisoners, and have been put on their trial on the 20th inst., at Bromberg, for resistance to the armed authorities. The jury returned a verdict of guilty, and the court sentenced them to two years' imprisonment in a fortress—a leniency giving great satisfaction to the crowded audience, who felt a strong sympathy for the men. The Circassians returned thanks to the judge, saying that sentence of death would in Prussia be more welcome to them than pardon in Russia. But at the expiration of their imprisonment they will, it is feared, be claimed by the Czar, and Prussia has bound itself by treaty to deliver up deserters.

Advices from *Berne* of the 21st inst. inform us of an insurrection which has broken out at Interlaken. A band of insurgents attacked the Government-house on the 20th inst. They were opposed by the troops, and an engagement ensued, in which the rioters were repulsed. The Stadtholder, Dr. Müller, was seriously wounded. Interlaken and the neighbouring passes have been occupied by the Bernese troops.

The accounts from *Rome* mention the case of a man who was brought to trial after eighteen months' confinement. As he was being conducted up to the tribunal he broke from his gaolers and threw himself out of a high window which happened to be open on the staircase, falling with such violence on the pavement as to be killed on the spot. He was a carpenter from Palo, whose crime was that of having marched with the Roman Legion into Lombardy, and subsequently aided in the defence of Rome against the French. Some of the Roman soldiers who recently fought with and wounded the French, in pothouse squabbles, have been condemned by a French court-martial to fine and imprisonment for various terms.—The removal of General Changarnier from the command of the army of Paris, and the appointment of General Baraguay d'Hilliers to that of all the troops of the first military division, have produced great uneasiness in the ecclesiastical circles, since the sentiments so freely expressed by the latter officer, on his return to the Legislative Assembly, with respect to the Roman question, have disposed them to class him amongst the enemies of the Church, or, at any rate, only amongst her lukewarm supporters.

The *Turkish* intelligence contains an account of the *Punishment of a Rebellious Pacha*. Some disturbances in Bosnia having been suppressed, Omer Pasha, the Seraskier, made his triumphal entry into Bosna Serai on the 17th of December. Mahmud, the rebellious Pasha of Tuzla, rode on a miserable saddle affixed to the back of a peasant's sorry jade. After him rode the other prisoners, the mussulims, the cadis, &c., each horse being attached to the saddle of its predecessor. Four Nisams (Christians), dressed as jesters, with cap and bells, and performing all kinds of antics, led on the mournful procession. After this Mustapha Pasha Babic was led on foot through the streets, and it is said that the sad spectacle drew tears from the eyes of many of the Turks who stood round. Mahmud Pasha had escaped to Vinkovze, in Slavonia, but for some reason unknown he returned to Tuzla, and voluntarily surrendered himself to the Seraskier, who has treated him as above mentioned, and paid the arrears of his troops with the 18,000 ducats which he found in the fallen despot's possession.

15th instant. They contain the Annual Report of the Secretary of the Treasury, Mr. Corwin, which forms a supplement to the President's message on the opening of Congress, and is the basis of the President's financial recommendations. In the Senate, Mr. Benton had introduced a bill embodying a magnificent scheme for carrying a treble road from St. Louis on the Mississippi to the Bay of San Francisco on the Pacific coast of California. The line would include a railroad, a plank-road, and a common highway, with military posts; the Indian titles would be bought, and a tract of 100 miles wide be granted for settlers and public purposes. The line would be 1600 miles in direct length; there would be one branch of 300 miles to Santa Fé, and another branch to Oregon of 500 miles: the whole amount of land granted would be 150,000,000 acres. In the House of Representatives, a Government measure for the reduced postage had been made a special order of the day for early discussion. A resolution had been adopted by the House of Representatives to refer to the Committee on Naval Affairs a proposition that the President should give notice to Great Britain of a desire to withdraw the squadron at present stationed on the West Coast of Africa to co-operate with us in suppressing the slave-trade.

The Anglo-Norman steamer had blown up, on the Mississippi, with three hundred persons on board: nearly a hundred were killed. Three editors of newspapers, M. Senator Junius Beebe, and a number of leading citizens, were among those who perished.

The steamer Knoxville, bound for Nashville, while pushing from the Levee, on the 18th December, burst all her boilers; killing and wounding about twenty persons, and damaging boats lying alongside.

The annual report of commerce and navigation gives the following aggregate of the number of steam-boats built in the United States since 1824, twenty-five years, in periods of five years each—From 1824 to 1829, 194; from 1829 to 1834, 304; from 1834 to 1839, 504; from 1839 to 1844, 522; from 1844 to 1849, 969; total, 2492. Two-thirds of these are built in the West, one-sixth of them in Ohio. The largest number of steamers built at one place are built in Pittsburg and its neighbourhood.

A correspondence has been read in the Senate between the Austrian Minister and the United States Government, touching the appointment by the latter of an agent to the *de facto* Government of Hungary during the struggle of that country with Austria. The Austrian Chargé, in his letter, assumes a very solemn tone, and treats the matter as one of the very highest importance. He very gravely remarks that the circumstance is one which the Austrian Government cannot overlook; that he solemnly protests against it as contrary to the comity of nations, and as a violation of the American doctrine of non-intervention. He further intimates that unless full satisfaction is afforded, ulterior measures will be resorted to. The reading of this bellicose document in the Senate caused considerable merriment.

The accounts from *Peru* are very distressing; bands of brigands from the interior were infesting the city of Lima and neighbourhood, committing the most outrageous robberies and murders, and the Government had not the power to put them down. A perfect panic existed among the inhabitants who had property of any value at stake, and they were barricading their houses, determined to defend themselves as well as they could against these ruffians.

The latest accounts from *California* attach immense importance to the recent discoveries of gold in the quartz rocks. If the amount of gold thus to be obtained turn out half as much as, it is said, every one believes, mining may be regarded as being yet in its infancy. The rapid progress of the city of San Francisco is one of the greatest wonders of modern times. Already its population amounts to 50,000. The place was never intended by nature as the site of a large town. Large hills and bluff rocks cover the principal parts, but man is doing what nature had not done—levelling enormous sand banks, and filling up immense cavities. Miles of rock, at least 40 feet high, are being levelled. The streets are being planked, and a planked road for four miles is going on. Wharves are extended into the bay, one of which is 2000 feet in length, and cost about 250,000 dollars. There are ten others nearly finished,

New York papers have been received, down to the

and altogether there are about two miles of wharf way, at a cost of 2,000,000 dollars. Harbours are constructed in which a 74 can lie. Piles are driven in 15 feet of water, and houses erected upon them in which a large proportion of the inhabitants reside and have their

warehouses. In short (says a letter from which we take these particulars) any person who may leave the town for a month will scarcely know it again on his return, so rapid are the changes, so wonderful the march of improvement!

NARRATIVE OF LITERATURE AND ART.

THE remarkable feature in the literature of the past month has been the extraordinary influx of tracts on the question of the Papal Aggression. Their number makes it hopeless even to print their titles. From a city or county meeting to Mr. Ridgway's shop has been always a not unnatural transition; but the connection of platform and pamphleteering oratory has probably never had such curious and ample illustration as in the present Anti-Papal excitement. Let us add that platform oratory never proposed to itself a higher or worthier aim than that which animated a recent meeting in Manchester, to establish, for the benefit of the workingclasses of that great town, a free public museum and library. There were incidents connected with it which could not have been paralleled in any other city or country in the world. Its principal promoter was the Mayor of Manchester; and he produced to the meeting, no less a sum than between six and seven thousand pounds, already subscribed, and exclusively the result of the private contributions of the merchants of the town, aided by a donation from the overseers of the township! No sooner was the proposal started, than it was nobly completed. The matter had been in agitation not many months; yet, before the 1st of July in the present year, a library of reference containing eight thousand books will have been opened, freely accessible to all, and a supplementary or lending library of five thousand volumes more will have been collected in the same building, for the use of artisans and their families at home. Nor is it the least gratifying part of this extraordinary achievement to reflect that such exertions could only have been called forth by a class of men in all respects eminently deserving of them. There was not a speaker at the meeting who did not bear eager testimony to the marked improvement in the feeling of the working classes during the last few years, and to a singular increase in their desire for education, and the means of intellectual pursuits.

The current of general publication during the month has set less exclusively than usual in the direction of what is commonly termed light literature, and is so often literature of distressing heaviness. The *Memoirs of the Dukes of Urbino*, by Mr. Dennistoun of Dennistoun, a goodly work in three large octavos very abundantly illustrated, exhibits the quality of enthusiasm and zeal for a subject which is so desirable in an author; and the slight but expressive engravings of the Raffaele portraits (executed by Italian graveurs) are quite exquisite. In connection with this book may be mentioned a new edition of Sir Charles Eastlake's *Handbook of Italian Art* by Kugler, with upwards of a hundred outlines from the pictures of old masters, executed by Mr. George Scharf, which, though necessarily minute, supply really a very vivid and interesting comment to the eye on the schools of Art respectively described.

To the department of history an agreeable contribution has been made by Mr. Manners Sutton, in the *Lexington Papers*, which deal chiefly with the men and manners, native and foreign, of the latter years of William, and the whole of Anne's reign, and to the general reader are principally interesting for several characteristic letters of Prior and Stepney. One of the manuscripts left by the late Lord Holland has also been published by his son, with the title of *Foreign Reminiscences*. It is slight in texture, but contains shrewd observation, and anecdotes remarkably well told. An elaborate volume on the traces of the *Roman Wall* between the Tyne and the Border, by an enthusiastic and intelligent North Country clergyman and antiquarian, is a contribution to history somewhat more remote. For another contrast to which, upon the extreme modern side, let us add that Mr. Archibald Prentice has published *Historical Sketches of Manchester* during the last half-century.

Travellers and tourists have been active in their way. Across the *Atlantic*, is a rapid but keen glance at the manners and abodes of our transatlantic cousins. The *Golden Horn*, is an intelligent ramble in parts of Asia Minor and the less trodden country east of the Jordan, by a son of the Bishop of Gloucester. The *Bridal and the Bride*, describes a honeymoon trip on horseback through the East. *Life in the Arctic Regions*, is an account of the last unsuccessful expedition in search of Sir John Franklin, by the second in command of the small but stout little ship fitted out by Lady Franklin herself.

In general literature we have to mention a tory survey of *England as it is*, by Mr. Johnston; a translation of

Fourier's *Passions of the Soul*, by the Rev. Mr. Morell; a republication by Lord Mahon, from his history, of the account of the rising of *The Forty Five*, with curious original letters, descriptive of the character of Charles Edward; a narrative of the *Second Sikh War*, by General Thackwell's aide-de-camp; a republication, in single volumes, of the works of *Sir James Macintosh*, and those of *Joanna Baillie*; a volume on the order and physical structure of the *Planetary System*, by Doctor Nichol; new editions of Mr. Hogarth's *Memoirs of the Opera*, of Coleridge's *Table Talk*, and of Sir Humphry Davy's *Salmonia and Consolations in Travel*; a translation by an evidently superior hand of the *Professor's Wife* of Berthold Auerbach; a volume of original and somewhat startling investigation on *Social Statistics* by Mr. Herbert Spencer; a new novel by Mrs. Marsh called *Time the Avenger*; a companion discovery to the *Historic Doubts* of Archbishop Whately, in the shape of *Historic Certainties*, having the same witty purpose, and very evidently by the same hand; and (to single out the one book relating to the Papal Controversy most worthy of mention for its vigour and originality) a volume entitled "*The Idol demolished by its own Priest*," by Mr. Sheridan Knowles, the author of "*Vigginus*."

There only remains to be mentioned a volume of poetry by Mr. Chauncey Hare Townshend, called *Sermons in Sonnets, with a Text on the New Year*, a collection of poetical *Stories that might be True* by Miss Dora Greenwell, and the first volume of a new and valuable edition of *Robert Burns* by Mr. Robert Chambers.

The attention of the theatrical world, during the month, has been chiefly occupied with Mr. Macready's farewell performances at the Haymarket. They are now very nearly brought to a close, and in a few days this great actor will leave the stage for ever.

There is now on view at Mr. Hogarth's gallery in the Haymarket, a painting by Mr. Maclise, of which the subject is taken from Lord Byron's tragedy of *Werner*; and the principal figure is a full-length portrait of Mr. Macready, as the hero of the piece. A line-engraving of this picture is in preparation.

A new comedy in five acts, entitled *The Old Love and the New*, has been produced at Drury Lane. A three-act drama, called *All that Glitters is not Gold*, at the Olympic; and a melo-drama (taken from the French) called *Belphégor le Mountebank*, at the Adelphi; all of them with success.

COMMERCIAL RECORD.

BANKRUPTS.

From the Gazette of Dec. 31.—F. YOUNG, Silver Street, Golden Square, cheesemonger.—E. TRENT, Sherborne, draper.—J. GIXX, Sudbury, builder.—J. HUGHES, Hacomby, Lincolnshire, beast-jobber.—J. SIMONS, Wibtoft, Warwickshire, horse-dealer.—J. HALEY and W. THOMPSON, Manchester, cotton-manufacturers.—W. ATKINSON, jun. Goole, shipwright.—E. LAKE, Okehampton, druggist.

Jan. 3.—E. POWNALL, Ipswich, shipowner.—E. and G. GODBOLT, Colledge-place, King's-road, Chelsea, carpenters.—F. MASTERS, Reading, plumber.—J. C. C. MILLAR, Clifton Street, Finsbury, surgeon.—W. S. MEYWEATHER, West Ham, Essex, brick-maker.—W. PITCHER, Pershore, Worcestershire, corn-dealer.—P. TOOLE, otherwise P. O'TOOLE, Liverpool, provision-dealer.—E. HALL, Salford, Lancashire, smallware-manufacturer.

Jan. 7.—M. and L. ROWLANDSON, Whitechapel-road, drapers.—R. HILLS, Downham, Isle of Ely, grocer.—J. BRETON, King Edward-road, Hackney, insurance-broker.—C. LIGHTFOOT, Torquay, lively-stable-keeper.—G. F. ALLMEY, Sheffield, hosier.—ANN ROYSTON, Chorlton-upon-Medlock, Lancashire, brewer.—J. D. HAWWOOD, Liverpool, ironmonger.

Jan. 10.—T. TOYNEBE, University Street, Tottenham Court-road, horse-dealer.—A. WILLSHE, South Island-place, Clapham-road, lively-stable-keeper.—A. MOORE, South Wharf, Paddington, stone-merchant.—J. SMITH, Kent-place, Old Kent-road, cheesemonger.—W. C. CRANWELL, Ely, potato-merchant.—C. G. JONES, Elizabeth Street, Hans-place, victualler.—H. CROSBY, Burnley, linen-draper.—G. T. KOLLASON, Birmingham, china-dealer.

Jan. 14.—T. COX, Cambridge, chemist.—H. G. and J. MORTIMER, Nayland, Suffolk, builders.—E. HOBBS, Brighton, victualler.—W. B. HARRISON, Sunderland, draper.—J. H. STEVENSON, Sunderland, miller.

Jan. 17.—J. J. KEELE and R. J. BISDEE, Riches Court, Lime Street, merchants.—J. PENFOLD, Marlborough-place, Old Kent Road, grocer.—P. MANCHIE, Curtain-road, cabinet-manufacturer.—T. NEWELL, Llanstifford, Montgomeryshire, horse-dealer.—W. WALKER, Preston, chemist.—J. JOWETT and Co., Preston, stonemasons.

Jan. 21.—J. BELL, Leyburn, Yorkshire, draper.—J. BLAIN, Liverpool, stationer.—W. H. CATTON and C. CATTON, Milnshire, Yorkshire, dyers.—L. P. GOLDSMID, King-street, Holborn, importer of watches.—F. G. JOHNS, New-yard, Great Queen-street, medical and general fixture-dealer.—J. LEMMON, Norwich, printer.—T. LOCOCK, jun., Weston-super-Mare, Somersetshire, builder.—J. RAWLING, Selby, Yorkshire, shoemaker.—J. ROBINSON, Stanwix, Cumberland, cattle-dealer.—P. VAN DEN ENDE, Strood, Kent, woollastper.—W. WALKER, Preston, Lancashire, chemist.

Jan. 24.—J. M. BRIDGLAND, Phoenix-street and Denmark-street, Soho, pianoforte-maker.—G. R. GALLOWAY, St. John's-street, brush-manufacturer.—J. GRAHAM, Ardwick, Lancashire, joiner.—J. JOHNSON, Coventry, Warwickshire, wine-merchant.—S. LEE, Loughborough, Leicestershire, bookseller.—J. H. LEMERE, Malden, Essex, draper.

Jan. 28.—J. HAYWARD, Oxford Street, Whitechapel, watch-maker.—R. J. JOHNSON, Woodwich, plumber.—W. WATERMAN, Sheffield, grocer.—M. McDONNELL, Liverpool, licensed victualler.—S. H. WATSON and J. KINGSTON, Rochdale and Burnley, Lancashire, mercers.—W. THOMPSON, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, grocer.

BANKRUPTCIES ANNULLED.

Jan. 7.—R. GARTON, Kingston-upon-Hull, bootmaker.

Jan. 14.—J. CURR, East Winch, Norfolk, grocer.

Jan. 17.—J. ROWBOTHAM, Sutton, Cheshire, silk-manufacturer.

THE STOCK AND SHARE MARKETS.

The slight rise which was felt in the market at the close of the past month has been maintained during the present. Three per cent. Consols did not sink to 96, with which our report closed (never having been lower than 96), and the latest price at the time of our going to press was 96½. At the opening of the month, the resignation of the French Ministry caused a sympathy in our market with that of Paris, and advancing prices received a check; but it was transient. After the opening of the bank books for private transfer on the 6th January, the re-investment of dividends was not so extensive as usual.

The Railway stock market was quiet during nearly the whole month. Towards the close a slight rise took place in the few transactions which were completed. Although, therefore, the amount of business has not been large, the market tendency has been firmness.

STOCKS.

	Highest.	Lowest.	Latest.
Three per Cent. Consols . . .	97	96½	96½
Three per Cent. Reduced . . .	97½	96½	97½
Three and a quarter per Cents. .	99	98½	98½
Long Annuities, Jan. 1860 . . .	73	71½	71½
Bank Stock	214½	213	214
India Stock	268	266	266
Exchequer Bills	62s. prm.	56s. prm.	57s. prm.
India Bonds	78s. prm.	71s. prm.	70s. prm.

FOREIGN FUNDS—LATEST PRICES.

Belgian 4½ per cent., 90½	New York (1858) 5 per cent., 93
Brazilian 5 per cent., 89½	Pennsylvania 5 per cent., 81½
Chilian 6 per cent., 106½	Peruvian 4½ per cent., 78
Danish 3 per cent., 77	" (Deferred) 4 p. ct., 33½
Dutch 2½ pr. cent. 12 guild., 155½	Portuguese 5 per cent., 35
French 3 per cent., 56 f. 95 c.	Russian 5 per cent., 112½
" 5 " 94 f. 85 c.	Spanish 3 per cent., 38½
Mexican, 5 per cent., 33½ ex. d.	Venezuela Bonds (Deferred) 11½

Paid.	RAILWAYS.	Highest.	Lowest.	Latest.
50	Aberdeen	10½	10	10½
100	Brighton and South Coast . . .	95½	88½	95½
118	Blackwall	7½	6½	7½
	Bristol and Exeter	79	77	79
50	Caledonian	104	104	104
20	Eastern Counties	6½	6	6½
50	Edinburgh and Glasgow . . .	30	28	30
25	Great Northern	18½	16½	17½
100	Great Western, ex. div.	82½	78½	82½
50	Hull and Selby	103	100	103
100	Lancashire and Yorkshire . . .	58½	55½	56½
100	London & North Western . . .	125	123½	124½
100	Midland	50½	47½	50½
25	North British	8½	8½	8½
30	South Eastern and Dover . . .	24	23	24
100	South Western	87½	77½	85½
25	York, Newc., and Berwick . . .	20	18½	19½
50	York and North Midland . . .	23½	21½	23½

FOREIGN RAILWAYS—LATEST PRICES.

Boulogne and Amiens, 9½	Paris and Rouen, 27½
East Indian, 12 ex. int.	Paris and Strasbourg, 9½
Namur and Liege, 8½	Rouen and Havre, 11
Northern of France, 14½ ex. int.	Tours and Nantes, 4½

CORN MARKET—LONDON WEEKLY AVERAGES.

Wheat, per qr. 38s.; Barley, 22s. 8d.; Oats, 16s. 5d.; Rye, 24s. 8d.; Beans, 26s. 7d.; Peas, 26s. 11d.; Flour (town made), delivered, 40s. to 43s.; American barrel of 280 lbs., 22s. to 23s.

PROVISIONS—LATEST WHOLESALE PRICES.

Bacon, per cwt., Waterford, 40s. to 45s.; Belfast, 37s. to 40s.	Hams, per cwt.—York or Cumberland, 60s. to 76s.; Irish, 69s.; Westphalia, 48s. to 51s.
Beef, per 8 lbs., mid. to prime, 2s. 6d. to 3s.	Mutton, per 8 lbs., mid. to prime, 3s. 6d. to 3s. 10d.
Butter, Fresh, per lb., 10d. to 1s.; Carlow, 1st, 8½s.; Waterford, 1st, 72s. to 78s.; Dutch Friesland, 98s. to 100s.; Limerick, 72s. to 76s.	Potatoes, per ton.—Kent and Essex Shaws, 60s. to 75s.; Kent and Essex Middling, 50s. to 60s.; Chats, 30s. to 35s.
Cheese, per cwt., Cheshire, 40s. to 60s.; Wiltshire, Double, 49s. to 58s.; Dutch, New Gouda, 29s.; American, 34s.	Pork, per 8 lbs., 2s. 6d. to 3s. 6d.; American, new per barrel, 46s. to 55s.
Eggs, per 120, English, 5s. to 5s. 6d.	Veal, per 8 lbs., 3s. to 3s. 10d.

GROCERY—LATEST WHOLESALE PRICES.

Cocoa, per cwt.—Ord. to good red Trinidad, 46s. to 45s.; Brazil, 30s. to 31s.	Sugar, per cwt.—Lumps, 49s. 6d. to 51s. 6d.; British West India, good grocery, 37s. to 43s.; Mauritius, brown, 30s. to 43s. 6d.; Brazil, do, 34s. to 44s.
Coffee, per cwt.—Good ord., Native Ceylon, 49s.; Mocha, 63s. to 65s.; Plantation, 56s. 6d. to 57s.; Bahia, 45s. to 47s.	Tea, per lb. (duty 2s. 1d.),—Ord. Congou, 11½d.; Sou-chong, com. to fine, 1s. to 2s. 8d.; ord. to fine Hyson, 1s. 2d. to 3s. 9d.; Imperial, 1s. 2d. to 2s. 8d.
Rice, per cwt.—Bengal mid. to fine white, 10s. to 11s. 6d.; Madras, 8s. 6d. to 9s. 6d.; Patna, 11s. 6d. to 17s.	

Candles, per 12 lbs., 4s. 6d. to 5s. | Coals, per ton, 13s. to 20s. 6d.

OILS.

Pale Seal, per 252 gals, 37l.	Palm, per ton, 29l. to 30l.
Sperm, 34l. to 37l.	Olive, Gallipoli, 44l.
Cod, 38l. 10s.	Linsed, 33l. 10s.

THE

HOUSEHOLD NARRATIVE

OF CURRENT EVENTS.

1851.]

FROM THE 29TH JANUARY TO THE 25TH FEBRUARY.

[PRICE 2d.]

THE THREE KINGDOMS.

THE Whig Ministry of 1846 has fallen. It has taken but three weeks of the first session following the death of Sir Robert Peel to put the policy of that great statesman into apparent peril. It is now that the country feels in its nearest interests the most deplorable public loss of our time. On the last night when Sir Robert Peel and Lord John Russell sat together in the House of Commons, the Premier avowed that it was by Sir Robert's support his Ministry had been sustained through all the perils of '48 and '49. It has not long survived the loss of those helping offices, of that guiding care.

It is not to be denied that the Ministry has fallen ingloriously. Their budget is a confessed and melancholy failure. It satisfied no friend, and conciliated no enemy. Without adding anything to the means of staying off a protectionist policy, it subtracted from the means of carrying out and completing the commercial policy. It was as little fair as it was generous. Sir Charles Wood even flippantly avowed that he had chosen to be rather unjust than just, in one part of the assessment proposed under it, because he did not choose to subject himself to the annoyance which justice would have been sure to occasion him. From the first moment that this notable plan was propounded, its contemptuous rejection was a matter of certainty. Men have not made up their minds to be saddled with the Income-tax, and all its inequalities, as though they were simply beasts of burden. Their reason desires to be satisfied that, in this matter of direct taxation, they are undergoing the temporary inconvenience for some certain ultimate advantage. It is quite clear what the course of Sir Robert Peel's reasoning was in the matter. Against every fiscal burden, he balanced so much expansion of each man's means to bear it. His object was the relief of industry and trade to the utmost conceivable extent, because he knew that the not distant re-payment from such sources back to the National Exchequer would be tenfold. No man was more sensible of the claims of the public creditor; but while duties and imposts still remained to obstruct employment and dishearten enterprise, he would have ridiculed the folly of flinging a million of surplus to the relief of the National Debt. There are but two intelligible modes of effecting such relief. There is Mr. Disraeli's for a sinking fund, the outlay of five millions a year, and re-imposition of the old burdens. There is Sir Robert Peel's for filling the National Exchequer by unrestricted freedom to National Enterprise. Sir Charles Wood has not had the courage boldly to encounter either; and he leaves not a man in the state to regret his downfall.

But the truth must be told in this as in other things. Bad as the budget was, it is not the budget by which Ministers have fallen. Signs and portents appeared within a few days of the meeting of Parliament which foreboded what has come to pass. The Ecclesiastical Titles Bill, however short of its professed design, succeeded thoroughly in disaffecting the Irish Roman Catholics; and some twenty Free-traders, bent upon protecting the Pope, went about it in the Irish fashion of voting for protection to Agriculture. But for this Mr. Disraeli's minority would have fallen considerably short of last year's. As it was, the policy which our greatest statesman so recently and solemnly bequeathed to the continued care and support of the House of Commons, received but the scanty support of a majority of fourteen members of that House. Nobly did Sir James Graham, however, represent and vindicate his deceased chief; and, in a speech as impressive and remarkably eloquent as any statesman ever delivered within those walls, warn his old associates on the Conservative bench, that they might convulse the country, might endanger property, might shake to their foundations every institution of the State, but that they could not, with the help of any power now existing in England, permanently enhance by force of law the price of bread. Significantly enough, when the question which Mr. Disraeli would have passed off for that of merely relieving land of some millions of taxes, was revived a few nights after in the House of Lords under its older and plainer designation of Protection to British Industry, Lord Stanley sat ominously silent. He heard Lord Hardwicke first protest that the manufacturers were thriving on the ruin of every other interest in the country, and then proceed to describe how these same thriving manufacturers, having multiplied production beyond all reasonable bounds, had utterly failed to find a market, either here or abroad. Yet the Protectionist leader continued silent. He heard not only Lord Hardwicke, but Lord Malmesbury and the Duke of Richmond, threaten a coming invasion of French industry more appalling than French cannon or steel; and still said not a word. Probably he had better reasons for remaining silent when Lord Wodehouse rose, and, in one of the neatest and best arguments ever delivered on the question, put the simple truth before his fellow peers. He disposed of Mr. Disraeli's debate in the half-dozen words in which he said that the interest of each class of the community was dependent on the general prosperity of the country, and that particular interests could never be consulted or preferred except to the detriment of the rest. He reminded the House that traders both in silk and cotton had formerly clamoured for restriction to save them from ruin, just as loudly as the farmers were clamouring now; and he asked whether cultivators of the soil were to be the only class in the realm incapable of overcoming their difficulties without help from the public purse, modified as those difficulties were from day to day by infinite circumstances, and by the prominent and permanent fact that for British agricultural produce there was the best market in the world, that of domestic consumption. He overthrew Mr. Disraeli's statistics by acutely separating the agricultural from the non-agricultural land subject to parochial taxation, and by showing that the former represented but forty-five per cent. of the whole. He declared that such had been

the reduction in price of articles consumed in his own county of Norfolk, that, though the wages of the agricultural labourer were less, his comforts were considerably more, than they had been for many years past. Finally, he earnestly warned the tenant-farmer class not to be led away by any such delusion and snare as the least prospect of a return to Protection.

These truths are of the last importance at present, as probably Lord Stanley felt at the time, and since has had stronger assurance of. He cannot take office either on Mr. Disraeli's cautious pretence, or Lord Granby's more frank avowal. He cannot, on behalf of a section of the community alleged to be suffering, and never known within living memory to have been doing anything else, demand the reversal of a policy from which, to all other sections of the community, increased trade, increased commerce, increased employment, increased consumption, decreased expenditure, general tranquillity, and a large financial surplus, have confessedly arisen. He knows perfectly well that the very importation of foreign corn and flour so bitterly complained about, implies a consumption paid for by increased employment of the people; and that he might as well seek to restore the heptarchy as to bring back restriction. It is not necessary that what passed between the Queen and himself should be explicitly stated, events satisfy Mr. Disraeli's insolent questionings. It is enough that office has been within his grasp, and that, as yet, neither a party nor a policy has enabled him to take it. It will probably turn out that he really possesses neither; and that there will be imposed upon him and his followers much castigation, exercise devout, humbler indulgence of extravagant speech, and a posture recumbent for a considerable time longer, before either he or they can hope to resume any permanent share in a government which must henceforth be carried on for the general welfare of every class, and without exclusive regard to the particular interests of any.

Should the reconstruction of a Free-trade Ministry, by junction of the Whigs with Sir James Graham and his friends, lead to the reconstruction of the Ecclesiastical Titles Bill into a measure better justifying, by effective provisions, the hostility inseparable from legislating on the subject at all, it will not be matter for regret. If, indeed, the explanation of the effect of the bill by the Attorney-General had turned out to be correct, a better measure could hardly have been devised. It would, in that case, not simply have made amenable to punishment and fine the assumption of territorial titles, and the assignment or conveyance of property to trusts under such titles; but would have secured the nullity of all such temporal interference, in the usurped characters expressed by those titles, as that of Synods protesting against education, and obstructing the ordinary course of civil government. But the bill itself fails to bear out Sir John Romilly's construction of it. "I attack the territorial title," said Sir John, "because the present constitution of the Roman Church makes such a title necessary to the Ecclesiastical exercise of the Episcopal office: by prohibiting the former, therefore, I effectually stop every evil that can follow on the latter." This is not so clear. For what are the provisions of the bill? The first clause prohibits the assumption of ecclesiastical titles taken from the name of any place or district within the United Kingdom, and subjects offenders to a penalty of 100*l*. The second clause declares all acts done or documents signed under any such territorial title to be null and void. The third clause substitutes the Crown, in place of the bearer of any such titles, as administrator of property conveyed in trust to the latter. And the fourth compels offenders against the act to give evidence on oath of their own share in any of the prohibited proceedings. Of these clauses, it is obvious that the Attorney-General had hoped to check what is called the Synodical action of the Roman Catholic church by means of the second. But surely a clause so easy of evasion generally, could not be made stringent against Synods particularly. Suppose Dr. MacHale to have flung all his virus into the proceedings of a Synod, and to be afterwards content to sign the decree, diffusing and giving effect to the poison, with the name of "John, Archbishop of the Roman Catholics in Tuam," it is just as certain that the decree would lose nothing of its potency as that Archbishop John would escape the mulct and penalty.

The error arises from the supposition that Romish bishops cannot be constituted without territorial titles; whereas in every circumstance and particular of authority within their church, they are independent of the territorial part of their title. Assuming, then, that the bill fails in this very important respect, it seems to us unwise to have extended its provisions to Ireland so far as the mere interdiction of usurped titles forms part of it. There will be continual difficulty, and unceasing exasperation, in resolving to proscribe by the external agencies of law what cannot be proscribed in the minds of the great body of the population. On the other hand, it is perfectly within the province of the legislature to apply to both countries the precautions framed by this bill against the endowment in either kingdom of any branch of the Romish church. Here the design of the Pope is fairly confronted and thrust back. One of the great uses of a hierarchy is to facilitate the acquisition of property. As his Holiness has chosen to ignore the law in creating his bishops, the law returns him but a compliment in kind when it demands, as its condition of intercourse with the holy men, that they should put off the titles so defiantly usurped. But this fair and reasonable restriction is at once an effective bar to the retention of property for the uses desired; and thus one of the greatest uses of the hierarchy is at once estopped. Supposing this bill, then, to give place to any other attempt to legislate on the part of the new administration, it might yet be desirable, in retaining that part of its disqualifying effect, to attempt to extend it also to such abuses of authority on the part of the bishops, as might be held interferences with the province of temporal legislation and the policy of the State. With any such precaution, the mere assumption of titles would have no alarm for us; and with the power of the Synod, or of any other organisation which may seem needful to the Catholic church for management of its own affairs, we should not dream of meddling.

One thing is quite certain, that it will not do to evade this question by way of smoothing the difficulties of a ministerial crisis. It will have to be fairly met, and so disposed of as to satisfy the English people. The measure as it stands is denounced by the organ of the Romish priests as the most absolute delusion and trick that ever was tried to be palmed upon the gullible and unsuspecting; but that kind of pretence is too stale to pass for a reality. When the *Tablet*, with a quite amazing assumption of philosophical indifference, protests that Lord John's bill fills it with concern only because it is inefficient, and denounces protestant feeling that can declare itself contented with such an abortion, as "the most contemptible, ludicrous, rotten, asinine, weak, paltry, blind, wretched, miserable humbug that ever disgraced humanity," its calmness is too like *Sir Anthony Absolute's* to reveal anything but secret rage. We may be sure that a part of the bill has been well aimed, or the cry of assumed indifference would not be so piercing. Nay, it is not difficult to gather, from what this journal says of the possibility of even

its paltry provisions "seriously incommoding the administration of our trust funds," that the real strength of the bill lies in the direction we have pointed out, and that what remains to give it greater efficiency will have to be found in that direction also. Meanwhile our statesmen may learn from the same source what chance there is of any retrogression on the part of Rome to render needless a less stringent legislation. Lord John Russell threw out a sort of hope that his Holiness might retreat from his demands, if no further notice were taken of them; as Billy Lackaday in the farce delays answering the bell that he may tire the people in the parlour into waiting on themselves. But no such disposition is likely to show itself at the Flaminian or any other gate. Hear what the *Tablet* says of the present determination existing in the Vatican with respect to the Irish Hierarchy: "A weak and easy priest chosen at this moment to fill up a vacant diocese in Ireland, might give a vote to the Castle on the side of the Colleges, and turn a 'minority of thirteen' into something very like a majority. Accordingly we may be sure that in Ireland no less than in England vacancies will not be filled up without the fullest assurance that the new bishop can be depended on to go all prudent and necessary lengths in opposition to government intrigues. If the election of the clergy does not give this security, some other method of attaining it must and will be found out in Rome; and if Lord John Russell has small fancy for Dr. Cullen's appointment to Armagh, perhaps he may have just as little occasion to rejoice in the appointments that will follow." Whatever party of statesmen may now succeed in reconstructing the administration, they can hardly say, after this, that they have not had ample warning of where the real danger lies against which it will be their duty to protect both the English and Irish people, both the Catholic and Protestant laity.

Uncertain as all the promises of the session have suddenly become, and premature as further comment may prove to be on the immediate and shifting changes and negotiations of the hour, the hope is at least permitted us that none of the turns of the political wheel may intercept such reforms already within sight as that of some scheme for a General Registry of Deeds, and the proposition for the removal of Smithfield. Lord John Russell's promise of a bill next session for the Extension of the Franchise is meanwhile become a piece of history. The country counts upon that, and looks forward to it, as an advantage already won. Out of all the present loss or discomfiture of the Whigs, this, at any rate, is a popular gain secured, which no future combinations or coalitions of parties will have strength any longer to resist. Though the late premier thought fit to oppose a motion for further reform so reasonable as that of Mr. Locke King, whose successful division led to the existing crisis, he had yet the wisdom as well as courage (of which, in coming danger, the noble instincts never seem to desert him) to throw out an anchor of safety against the evil of his own opposition. It saved him the allegiance of reformers at the very moment of his resistance to reform, and will the better enable him now to construct an administration, should the chance still present itself, powerful where its predecessor was weak, in the sympathy and good wishes of the people.

NARRATIVE OF PARLIAMENT AND POLITICS.

PARLIAMENT assembled on Tuesday, the 4th inst., the Session being opened by the Queen in person, with the usual formalities. Her Majesty was attired in a white satin brocade, embroidered with gold, wore a tiara of diamonds, and appeared in excellent health and spirits. The royal speech was as follows:—

"MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,

"It is with great satisfaction that I again meet my Parliament, and resort to your advice and assistance in the consideration of measures which affect the welfare of our country.

"I continue to maintain the relations of peace and amity with Foreign Powers. It has been my endeavour to induce the States of Germany to carry into full effect the provisions of the treaty with Denmark which was concluded at Berlin in the month of July of last year. I am much gratified in being able to inform you that the German Confederation and the Government of Denmark are now engaged in fulfilling the stipulations of that treaty, and thereby putting an end to hostilities which at one time appeared full of danger to the peace of Europe.

"I trust that the affairs of Germany may be arranged by mutual agreement, in such a manner as to preserve the strength of the Confederation and to maintain the freedom of its separate States.

"I have concluded with the King of Sardinia articles additional to the treaty of September, 1841, and I have directed that those articles shall be laid before you.

"The Government of Brazil has taken new and I hope efficient measures for the suppression of the atrocious traffic in slaves.

"GENTLEMEN OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS,

"I have directed the Estimates of the year to be prepared and laid before you without delay. They have been framed with a due regard to economy, and to the necessities of the public service.

"MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,

"Notwithstanding the large reductions of taxation

which have been effected in late years, the receipts of the revenue have been satisfactory.

"The state of the commerce and manufactures of the United Kingdom has been such as to afford general employment to the labouring classes.

"I have to lament, however, the difficulties which are still felt by that important body among my people who are owners and occupiers of land. But it is my confident hope, that the prosperous condition of other classes of my subjects will have a favourable effect in diminishing those difficulties, and promoting the interests of agriculture.

"The recent assumption of certain ecclesiastical titles conferred by a Foreign Power has excited strong feelings in this country; and large bodies of my subjects have presented addresses to me, expressing attachment to the Throne, and praying that such assumptions should be resisted. I have assured them of my resolution to maintain the rights of my crown, and the independence of the nation, against all encroachment, from whatever quarter it may proceed. I have, at the same time, expressed my earnest desire and firm determination, under God's blessing, to maintain unimpaired the religious liberty which is so justly prized by the people of this country. It will be for you to consider the measure which will be laid before you on this subject.

"The administration of justice in the several departments of Law and Equity will no doubt receive the serious attention of Parliament; and I feel confident that the measures which may be submitted, with a view of improving that administration, will be discussed with that mature deliberation which important changes in the highest courts of judicature in the kingdom imperatively demand.

"A measure will be laid before you providing for the establishment of a system of registration of deeds and instruments relating to the transfer of property. This measure is the result of inquiries which I have caused to be made into the practicability of adopting a system of registration calculated to give security to titles, and to diminish the causes of litigation to which they have hitherto been liable, and to reduce the cost of transfers.

"To combine the progress of improvement with the

stability of our institutions, will, I am confident, be your constant care. We may esteem ourselves fortunate that we can pursue, without disturbance, the course of calm and peaceable amelioration; and we have every cause to be thankful to Almighty God for the measure of tranquillity and happiness which has been vouchsafed to us."

In the HOUSE OF LORDS, the Earl of EFFINGHAM moved *The Address* in a speech of considerable length. The address was seconded by Lord CREMORNE.—Lord STANLEY said that though he was not altogether satisfied with some parts of the speech, it was not his intention, or the intention of those with whom he acted, to call on the house to negative or alter the address. After making some remarks on the part of the speech relating to Foreign Affairs, he said that the allusion to agricultural distress afforded a basis for some criticisms. Last year, her Majesty stated that she had heard with regret the "complaints" which had proceeded from a certain portion of the owners and occupiers of land; but added, that cheapness and plenty had bestowed an increased enjoyment of the necessities and comforts of life upon the great body of the people. This year, however, they were told that her Majesty lamented "the difficulties which are still felt by that important body"—no longer a small fraction, whose interests were to be separated from those of the mass, "who are owners and occupiers of land." It is a melancholy satisfaction to the general class to have the extent and reality of its distress, and the reasonableness of its complaints, thus acknowledged by the government. The sympathy, however, should in consistency have been more active. They were told that there was great and general prosperity throughout the country, and that the manufacturing classes were largely profiting; but that concurrently with this general prosperity of the great bulk of the people, one class—and that the most important of all interests—was suffering severely. They were informed also, that, notwithstanding the large reductions of taxation which had been effected in late years, the state of the revenue was satisfactory; which meant, he supposed, that there was at the disposal of the government a very large surplus applicable for the remission of taxation. If, then, all interests in the country, with the exception of the most important, are prospering, and if it were possible to apply any relief in the shape of remission of taxation, he asked her Majesty's government, what is the interest in favour of which such remission of taxation might be most fitly and justly adopted? Lord Stanley did not deny that in certain parts of the country, and with regard to certain productions, the condition of the agricultural interest is prosperous—as near manufacturing towns, where the profits are more derived from stock than from wheat; but he retained his impression of the impolicy of the measure of 1846 as a whole. He would not deceive or delude the producer of this country by holding out any false hopes. He would therefore say, that he believed the present prices are permanent; he believed they are the effect of recent legislation; he believed that at those prices the production of this country must be materially diminished; that with that decrease of production the comfort and happiness of the most important portion of the population would also be greatly diminished; and that the diminution of the amount of real capital would render the people less able to sustain that enormous weight of taxation which they had hitherto borne. Lord Stanley then proceeded to the subject of the Papal Aggression. This, he said, was no question of religious controversy; and he trusted that in neither House of Parliament would it be treated as a question of the comparative purity of the doctrines of the Reformed and of the Roman Catholic faith. With that subject we have nothing to do. But the question was, should the Roman Catholic prelates, with the head of the Roman Catholic Church, be permitted to exercise in this country a mischievous interference, not with trifles, or shadows, or ideas, but with substantial realities and with the government of the country? A noble Lord, holding a responsible office under the crown, had written a letter which had attained great celebrity: that noble Lord could not but have been well aware of the nature of the flame he was about to kindle in the country; he could hardly have taken such a step

without having deliberately counted the cost, and calculated the magnitude of the struggle on which he was about to enter. He must mean to vindicate the supremacy of the crown, to vindicate the rights of the bishops and the clergy, to vindicate the undivided sway of her Majesty and of parliament over the domestic concerns of this country, and to put down any interference with the administration of this realm and the authority of its Queen and parliament. The government ought to consider temperately, but firmly, all the difficulties of the relation in which the Roman Catholic subjects of this country stand to the crown. In the year 1829 there were certain securities introduced into the great measure of Emancipation, which it was supposed would be an effectual security to the Protestant Church against Roman Catholic aggression. It would be the duty of the government deliberately to examine those securities; and if there are any of them which, whilst they are offensive to the Roman Catholics, yet give no real security to the interests of Protestantism—any which are incapable of being enforced, and only lie encumbering the statute-book as a dead letter—he would say, "Sweep them off at once, and don't leave yourselves the odium of having enacted them when you derive no benefit from enforcing them." But if there are any cases in which the law, however well intended, does not reach the point it was meant to touch—if it does not reach this encroachment upon our liberties by the see of Rome, which at the time of the passing of the act of 1829 was never contemplated—then he said that it would be no violation of the civil or religious liberties of the Roman Catholics that those securities should be made, as they had always been intended to be, effectual. Let them look the whole case in the face boldly, but dispassionately—not contenting themselves with trifling legislation, but legislating unflinchingly to the extent which the imminence of the danger called for.—The Duke of RICHMOND spoke briefly on the confirmation given to his anticipations, and justifying his conduct as a consistent opponent both of Catholic Emancipation and of Free Trade from the first mooted of either of those measures to the present moment. On the subject of agricultural distress he said that he had spent a great deal of money in improvements; but, unless protection was restored, he would never spend another shilling in that way, for he was not one who liked sending good money after bad.—The Earl of WINCHELSEA said that England had never been so degraded as at the present moment, when she had been insulted by the bishop of Rome. He only hoped the government measure would be such as to sustain those Protestant principles which had made England great and free.—Lord CAMOYS said that he was a Roman Catholic, as his forefathers had been for centuries, but at the same time he was an Englishman, and the rights and liberties of England were as dear to him as to any of their lordships. He admitted the spiritual supremacy of the Queen over the established church to the fullest extent that the most orthodox member of that church could desire, and he acknowledged the supremacy of the Pope over the Roman Catholic population of this country in spiritual matters; but as to any other assumption of power over this country on the part of the Pope, or any undue exercise of his spiritual power over its population, against any such assumption he felt it to be his duty to protest.—The Marquis of LANSDOWNE called the attention of the house to the peculiar nature of the act of usurpation lately committed by the Pope against the royal supremacy, and remarked on the absurdity of the arguments of those apologists who wished to make it appear that the Pope only intended in his letter apostolic to assert his spiritual influence over members of the Roman Catholic faith. He had no doubt that the proposed measure on the subject would be discussed with all due deliberation by the house.—After some observations from Lord RODEN, who expressed his disappointment that the speech had not contained stronger expressions respecting the Protestant religion, the address was agreed to unanimously.

On Thursday the 6th, Earl FITZWILLIAM asked Lord Minto if there was any truth in the allegation that he had, directly or indirectly, encouraged the Pope in his recent act of aggression.—The Earl of MINTO had no

hesitation in declaring that the allegation in question was wholly unfounded. The subject had never been mentioned, or even hinted at, during his Italian mission.

On Friday the 7th, the Earl of MINTO, in reply to Lord Stanley, entered into some further explanations touching his entire ignorance of the Pope's intention to invade the independence of the English Church.

On Monday the 10th, the Marquis of LANDSDOWNE moved an address to the crown to the effect that the house deeply regretted the misfortune of the Earl of SHAFTESBURY'S inability from infirmity any longer to execute the duties of his important office, as *Chairman of their Lordships' Committees*, a post which he had filled for thirty-six years; that his necessary absence was a most serious loss, not only to the house in particular, but to the public at large; and that the house earnestly begged leave to recommend his lordship's eminent services to her Majesty's most gracious consideration.—The motion was agreed to.

On Tuesday the 11th, Lord ABINGER, in presenting a petition against *Papal Aggression* from the county of Surrey, called the attention of the house to the spread of Popery throughout the country, and to the disastrous effects which invariably resulted from the two great engines of the Roman Catholic priesthood—the celibacy of the clergy and the practice of confession.

On Thursday the 13th, Lord CAMPBELL presented a bill to simplify procedure in criminal trials, and stated that he had been induced to propose such a measure because the obscurity of the present enactment was such as to bring discredit on the administration of justice. He intended to ask leave to refer the bill to a select committee.—Lord BROUGHAM withdrew his County Courts bill and brought in a new one. The noble lord also gave notice of two other bills on the same subject.—The Earl of CARLISLE presented a petition from the Women of Sheffield, praying for the enfranchisement of women by a law giving them electoral privileges.

On Friday the 14th, Lord MONTEAGLE drew attention to the importance of establishing a communication by *Railway between Halifax and Quebec*, and urged the house not only to advance this great national object, but to take care that neither the colonial nor the home government stood in the way of its accomplishment.—Lord STANLEY supported the object, and counselled prompt and energetic action, as best suited to the interests of the country and the honour of the government.—Earl GREY, in reply, admitted the importance of the work, and said the subject was occupying the serious attention of her Majesty's government.

On Tuesday the 18th, the Earl of HARDWICKE presented a number of petitions complaining of *Agricultural Distress*, and then entered into the subject at considerable length. He quoted letters and local statistics in proof that Cambridgeshire is in great agricultural distress; tried to establish from more general political facts that our exports to the European Continent and to America have been least when we imported most corn, and largest when we excluded corn and protected home agriculture; angrily ridiculed the suggestions made in some quarters, that noble lords should grow cabbages and kitchen-stuff for the profitable supply of the towns; and complained that the landowners are not allowed to grow tobacco.—The Duke of RICHMOND declared, that if the farmers are any more taunted with the fewness of agricultural paupers, they will discharge the immense masses of labourers whom in charity they now employ to a quadruple degree beyond the wants of the land; and if they do this—remember that crime follows idleness.—The Earl of STRADBROOKE vouched the reduction of rents in Suffolk; the Earl of WINCHILSEA averred unprecedented and alarming numerousness of unemployed labourers; and the Earl of MALMESBURY criticised Sir James Graham for his exaggerations of the condition of Cumberland, with its holdings unchanged and rents punctually paid.—The Earl of GRANVILLE, Lord WODEHOUSE, and Earl FITZWILLIAM contended for free trade; admitting the distress of Cambridgeshire—the harvest in the Fens having been notoriously disastrous; re-establishing, by fresh proofs, the fact of general prosperity; and quoting the *Journal des Débats* to show that our free-trade example is now producing imitative legislation throughout Europe and America,

and is deemed by the leading men in France a policy of which it is "quite impossible there should be any change." The subject then dropped.

On Monday the 20th, Lord BROUGHAM called the attention of the house to the *Arrears of Business in the Court of Chancery*, and asked the Lord Chancellor if the government intended to fill up the third Vice-Chancellorship.—The Lord CHANCELLOR replied that the government had not intended to fill up the third Vice-Chancellorship until after they had introduced their proposed comprehensive measure for Chancery reform; but there was so much business before the existing courts, much of which arose, not out of arrears, but from new causes, that it was most probable the government would be forced to fill up the vacant Vice-Chancellorship without waiting to pass their proposed bill.—Lord CRANWORTH bore testimony to the absolute necessity of filling up the vacant office, and could not see that the appointment would in the slightest degree interfere with any arrangement which might be contemplated by the government with reference generally to the Court of Chancery.—Lord STANLEY asked whether the proposed measure would be introduced in that or the lower house.—The Lord CHANCELLOR could not answer that question.

On Monday, the 24th, the Marquis of LANDSDOWNE made a statement of the circumstances which had caused the resignation of the ministry, and subsequent occurrences. He said that, on Saturday last, in consequence of divisions in the lower house, the government had been induced to resign. On the same day Lord Stanley was invited to attend at Buckingham Palace, and, after an audience with her Majesty, stated that he was not then prepared to form a government. Lord John Russell had then been requested to reconstruct an Administration,—a task in which he was still engaged. Such was the condition of affairs; and, in conclusion, he could only say that he spoke as a member of a government which in fact existed no longer, and that he was its representative only for the purpose of making this communication to the house. The noble lord concluded by moving that the house at its rising should adjourn to Friday.—Lord STANLEY said it was not his intention to make any comment on what had fallen from Lord Lansdowne. He could only say that he had on Saturday the honour of a lengthened audience with her Majesty, in which he fully and unreservedly expressed his opinion on the state of the country. Nothing could exceed the graciousness and kindness of her Majesty; but he should ill respond to that kindness were he in the present state of affairs to reveal anything that had passed on the occasion. He should, however, be prepared to state fully what had passed as soon as the present crisis was over.—Their lordships then adjourned.

IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS, on Tuesday, the 4th inst., the *Address*, in answer to her Majesty's Speech, was moved by the Earl of KILDARE, and seconded by Mr. PETO.—Mr. ROEBUCK expressed the pain he felt at finding an administration calling itself liberal about to take a backward step, and at a time, too, when the minister put into the mouth of the Sovereign congratulations upon the prosperous state of the country, the result of the removal of restrictions. He briefly reviewed the history of Catholic Emancipation, and the principles on which that measure was founded, which, he contended, were violated by legislation against religious distinctions granted by a bishop, called the Pope. He charged Lord John Russell with dealing falsely with the country. This so-called territorial aggression was no new thing; it began years ago, and had been sanctioned by the noble lord himself; so far from being an aggression, it was a retrogression on the part of the Pope. Where was the aggression upon her Majesty's prerogative because Dr. Wiseman chose to call himself a cardinal, and put on a large hat and red stockings? This was an exercise of spiritual authority, and the noble lord had heretofore declared that the Pope's spiritual power must be left untouched. The Roman Catholics had been led to believe by the acts of the legislature and of the executive government that

what had been done could be done legally, and all had been planned and published years ago. After they had been thus lured on, was it wise or worthy of the noble lord, so long the advocate of civil and religious liberty, to aid a cry which had its source in some of the vilest passions, and lend the sanction of his great name to the old puritanical bigotry of England?—Sir R. INGLIS replied to Mr. Roebuck, insisting that no country in Europe would have submitted to such an act as that by which the Pope had usurped the prerogative of the Sovereign, and treated the people as a nation of heretics. Resistance to such aggression was not new in our history, though he admitted too large concessions had been made by the present ministers in Ireland and the colonies. He appealed to the extraordinary unanimity of the nation upon this subject, and trusted that the government would not be deterred from acting up to the spirit of Lord John Russell's letter to the Bishop of Durham.—Mr. J. O'CONNELL vindicated the act of the Pope in substituting a regular hierarchy for vicars apostolic, which, though not sanctioned by, was known to, the government of this country.—Mr. ANSTAY, as a Catholic, not of the Court, but of the Church of Rome, was not ashamed to call the act of the Pope an aggression. It was an aggression upon the Roman Catholic laity, who had struggled against subjection to the undue power of their prelates.—The Earl of ARUNDEL and SURREY would oppose any attack on the liberty of the Roman Catholic Church, from whatever quarter, but temperately and constitutionally: if persecution should be imposed, he trusted that his co-religionists knew how to suffer with firmness and dignity.—Mr. FAGAN altogether dissented from the assertion in the Speech that certain ecclesiastical titles had been conferred by a foreign power: they had been conferred by the Pope as spiritual head of the Church, and not as Sovereign of the Roman States.—Mr. HUME remarked, that a stranger, judging the House by its talk, would take it for an assembly of ecclesiastics. He endeavoured to call attention to the paragraphs of the Speech not ecclesiastical. The settlement in Denmark by no means gratified him, ending as it does with the occupation of the free city of Hamburg by the troops of Austria against the solemn protest of its rulers and people. His approval of the paragraphs referring to legal reform was the more lively as he believes the expenses entailed on the country by the Court of Chancery to be "more oppressive than the ordinary taxation." Regretting that the general prosperity has not reached the whole of the agricultural class, he thought the present a good opportunity for giving to that important part of the community their constitutional rights in the choice of Parliamentary Representatives. The Bible monopoly should be abolished. The Queen should disband her useless and unnecessary armies, and, like Queen Elizabeth, rely on her subjects as her guards.—Colonel SIBTHORP hoped to God that some hail-storm or some visitation of lightning might descend to defeat the ill-advised project in Hyde Park. When the foreigners come, he warned the people of this metropolis to "beware of thieves, pickpockets, and whoremongers—take care of your wives and daughters, take care of your lives and property."—Mr. BANKES, on the part of the agricultural interest, thought it his duty to make some remarks upon that part of the Speech which referred to the condition of that interest, whose "difficulties," it was said, would be diminished by the "prosperity of other classes." He contended that if the producers of the food of our labouring classes were foreigners, it was a fallacy to suppose that increased consumption could benefit British farmers, who were desponding and alarmed. Agriculture must have relief, and the only shape in which it could be afforded was by a fixed duty on foreign corn.—Lord J. RUSSELL justified the course pursued by the government in respect to foreign affairs, and in allusion to the suggestions of Mr. Bankes, observed, that although a temporary fixed duty upon foreign corn, adopted in 1840 or 1841, might have prepared the agricultural interest for an inevitable change, he did not believe it could have been maintained as the foundation of a permanent system.

On the subject of the *Papal Aggression*, Lord John reproached Mr. Roebuck for the low motives he

sometimes imputed to public men, and avowed that he had written the letter to the Bishop of Durham because he entertained the sentiments he then expressed, and could not refrain from giving publicity to them. He enumerated the concessions made to the Roman Catholics, the liberality, and even favour, with which they had been treated by the present government. In this state of things, the Roman Catholics having no reason to complain, the court of Rome suddenly thought proper to divide the whole country into dioceses, creating an archbishop of Westminster, of all places, and proclaiming to the people that English counties were to be "governed" by Roman Catholic prelates. With respect to the measure necessary to check this proceeding, his opinion was that the authority of Parliament would be sufficient, and it was not his intention to go beyond the occasion in the measure he should propose, which would embrace the whole of the United Kingdom.—Mr. DISRAELI said, that as it was vain to expect any measure to be proposed by government for the relief of the agricultural distress, he himself should do so on Tuesday next; "and (said he) if I do not succeed in producing a proposition for applying a remedy to this evil—a remedy entitled to the sanction of Parliament, and the confidence of the country—I now undertake never again to bring forward any motion connected with this great subject." With respect to the Papal aggression, he took Lord John Russell's letter to be the manifesto of a cabinet, and he believed that when that letter was written, much more was contemplated than the mere preventing the assumption by Cardinal Wiseman of a territorial title. That the aggression was "insidious," he did not agree with; on the contrary, the Pope had only frankly done what the noble lord had said there was no harm in doing, and what had long ago been done in Ireland with the noble lord's full consent. Unless, then, the premier was prepared to attempt the solution of the great problem of the reconciliation of the claims to allegiance of the English throne with the demands of obedience made from the papal chair, unless he was prepared to undertake this great task, he would have done much better in leaving the whole matter alone. The Address was then agreed to.

On Wednesday the 5th, Lord J. RUSSELL moved a resolution expressive of the appreciation of the house of the long services, extending over a space of forty-nine years, of *The late Mr. Ley*, the clerk of the house.—Mr. HUME, while agreeing cordially with the resolution, expressed his opinion that the vacancy had been most improperly filled up, by the appointment of a gentleman utterly inexperienced in and utterly ignorant of the practices and customs of the House of Commons.—Lord J. RUSSELL defended the appointment, stating that, in his conscientious opinion, the selection of Sir Denis Le Marchant was an excellent one. As for want of experience, a Speaker, a far more important official, could necessarily have no experience when first appointed to the chair.

Mr. BROTHERTON proposed a regulation, instructing the Speaker to *Adjourn the House* punctually every night at twelve o'clock, no matter what business may be under discussion. He attributed the recent great mortality of members to late hours, and urged the adoption of his plan for the present session as a trial.—Sir G. GREY opposed the motion, which was negatived by 108 to 32.

Lord D. STUART inquired whether, among the negotiations entered into with foreign powers, any attempt had been made to rescue *Kossuth and his Fellow-Captives* from the prison in which they were kept by the Turks, not willingly, but under terror of the menaces of Russia.—Lord PALMERSTON was sorry to say that the communications which had been interchanged with Constantinople for the release of Kossuth from Kutayah, had not been attended with any successful result.

On Thursday the 6th, Lord John RUSSELL, in answer to a question from Mr. Ward, said it was his intention to carry out the resolution of last session respecting the *Oath of Abjuration*, with a view to the relief of a certain class of her Majesty's subjects. He then moved the following resolution:—"That the house will not proceed

upon any Motion for an Address to the Crown to which opposition is offered, but in a committee of the whole house, except with respect to matters which have been previously submitted to a select committee." He pointed out the incongruity of the existing practice with the general rules of the house, and the inconveniences attending it, as exemplified last session in the case of the Post-office.—Objections to the resolution were suggested by Mr. Herries, Mr. Goulburn, and other members, and it was ultimately withdrawn until Tuesday next.

On Friday the 7th, Lord John RUSSELL moved for leave to bring in a Bill "*to prevent the Assumption of certain Ecclesiastical Titles in respect of places in the United Kingdom.*" In illustration of the aggressive spirit of the papal power, he referred to recent acts of the papacy in Ireland, where an archbishop had been appointed in an unusual manner, and a synod convoked by the Pope, to which powers were assigned of a nature unprecedented for many centuries in any section of the United Kingdom. From that synod an address had emanated, not limited to spiritual subjects, but promulgating very violent opinions respecting education and the occupancy of property. Passing to the continent, he adduced, as specimens of the same tendency, various circumstances that had occurred in Sardinia and Belgium. Reverting to England, he explained the scope of the letters missive published in September last, to be the formal division of the country into sees, over which a Roman Catholic archbishop and twelve bishops were appointed. This act had been done without any leave being asked or intimation given to the British government; though it was of a nature which, according to all precedent, and the inviolable courtesy of nations, could never be accomplished without previous negotiations, and must be viewed as an intrusion and an insult. Instancing from French and Austrian history the pretensions of the Roman spiritual power to interfere with things temporal, and the resistance that had been offered to those pretensions, he arrived at the conclusion that, even throughout Catholic nations, no bull or missive of the Pope was allowed to take effect for any temporal or secular purpose without the sanction of the home government. In Protestant countries the prohibition was more strict; and in none would such an insult have been permitted as was attempted to be passed upon the crown of England. In the letters missive and the addresses of Cardinal Wiseman, the church and the independence of England were absolutely ignored, and terms used which, though they had been exculpated as merely formal, could be interpreted into nothing but an assumption of territorial authority, and of a title inconsistent with that of Queen Victoria. Lord John, in reference to the story concerning Lord Minto, stated, that certainly the Pope said at one interview, "pointing to a table in the room, 'There is something there that regards you;' but Lord Minto did not look at the paper, or make any observation whatever on the subject." "Neither the Pope nor any other person said, 'Here is a paper that we would wish you to take and peruse, and submit it to your government;' if anything was said at all, it was only, 'That is a project that concerns you.'" When a private individual of the Roman Catholic persuasion told Lord John himself that there was such a project, he said he should "not approve of it," and said nothing more; and he did not dream of the possibility of what has happened. "I did not believe," said Lord John, "that it could be intended so to insult the Queen. I may have been like the foolish Italian shepherd, who said—

*'Urbum, quam dicunt Romam, Melibee, putavi,
Stultus ego, huic nostro similem;—'*

I may have thought most trustingly and imprudently that the Court of Rome would observe such relations, such discretion, such courtesy in her conduct with the state of England, as all other states that are friendly observe towards each other, and as she herself has observed towards every other state in Europe." Approaching the existing question, Lord J. Russell stated, that when the contingency first arose, the opinion of the law advisers of the crown was taken to the effect that the assumption of the prelate titles could not be

successfully impached; and that though the introduction of the letter apostolic fell under the penalties enacted by certain statutes, these had lain dormant for a very long period, rendering the success of any prosecution very doubtful. Two plans, modelled upon the practice of other countries, had been proposed for new acts. One was to enact that no bulls or writings from Rome of a nature prejudicial to the kingdom should be allowed to enter it; another, to subject all such writings to the scrutiny of some civil authority, without whose sanction they could not obtain currency. After explaining the inconvenience that might result from the adoption of either of these plans, Lord John referred to the principles laid down when the Emancipation Act was passed, and accepted then by the Roman Catholic clergy, that no titles should be assumed in the hierarchy of that church bearing any aspect of rivalry with the Protestant establishment. This principle it was now designed to carry out. In order to protect the Catholic laity from aggression, and to guard against the absorption of endowments, the measures he designed to introduce would forbid the assumption by Roman Catholics of any titles taken from any territory or place within any part of the United Kingdom, and would contain clauses rendering void any acts done by any parties under those titles, and annulling any bequest made to them, which should at once fall into the power of the crown to administer according to its discretion. This measure, he contended, would repel the offered insult, and secure the independence of the kingdom. In concluding his speech, Lord John made a pointed allusion to Dr. Wiseman. "If he has been given by the Pope a title which belongs to the Government of Rome to confer, and has been honoured by an election which has placed him in the band of the Sacred College, I should think that if he has any regard for the welfare of this country—if he has any regard for the peace and stability of the Roman Catholic community—the best course he can take will be to renounce the title which he has assumed in this country, and rather do that which I believe it was his original intention to do, and which he assured me it was his original intention to do—namely, reside at Rome. But if other counsels should prevail, and if he should be able to instil notions of conquest, of ambition, or of revenge, into the Court of Rome, we may then probably, though we can well know the end, look for a long and arduous struggle."—Mr. ROEBUCK contrasted the vast premises laid down by Lord J. Russell, alleging invasion and insult, with the insignificance of the measure he had founded on them. He controverted the applicability of the comparisons drawn from Catholic countries, referring as a better example to the United States, where the Catholic religion was not acknowledged, and yet the Pope was not feared. The best answer to a usurping bishop was, "We know you not;" the best repellent of insult was ridicule; and the best safeguard against future danger, to spread education amongst the people. The measure of the government he believed not to be inspired by fear of the papacy, but was a truckling to prejudices out of doors, and the opinions of members on the opposition benches.—Mr. JOHN O'CONNELL would support the measure, as being temperate, though he thought it would prove inefficient and poetry.—The measure was opposed by Mr. ROCHE, Mr. MOORE, and Mr. BRIGHT.—Mr. DISRAELI announced his intention of voting for it, though it would utterly disappoint the country.—Sir R. INGLIS was more inclined to thank the Prime Minister for his letter and his speech, than for the measure, which would prove insufficient. The debate was adjourned to Monday following.

On Monday, February the 10th, the adjourned debate on the proposed bill to prevent the *Assumption of certain Ecclesiastical Titles* was resumed.—The ATTORNEY-GENERAL explained the scope and effect of the measure. The offence which it was intended to meet consisted in the introduction of a bull, by which certain persons were authorised by the Pope to assume the titles of bishops in England, with jurisdictions defined by territorial limits. The act of the court of Rome was resented by the country because, first, it was an insult offered to the British crown; secondly, it was an injury inflicted upon

certain classes of its subjects. With respect to the insult, he thought it would be sufficiently repelled by the opinion expressed throughout the country and in that house, and by words introduced in the bill. The injury—which affected the Roman Catholic classes of the community—was of a twofold nature, spiritual and temporal. With the spiritual effect of the bull the house had nothing to do; but its effect in temporal matters would be to give to the bishops having territorial jurisdiction a power of dealing with religious endowments made by parties who had not intended that they should be so administered; and whilst he was not aware that, in respect to spiritual matters, vicars apostolic, who were bishops *in partibus*, had less authority than territorial bishops, it was important to stop persons dependent upon the Pope of Rome from interfering with the rights of British subjects. The bill, therefore, in the first place, extended the provisions of the Roman Catholic Relief act, which imposed a penalty of 100*l.* upon the assumption of the title of any existing see, to that of any title whatever from any place in the United Kingdom. But it did not stop there. In order more effectually to prevent the assumption of territorial titles, the bill would make every act done by persons assuming such titles, by virtue of them, absolutely void; and in addition, in order to hinder parties from making gifts to persons assuming such titles, the bill would declare the endowment of such pretended sees illegal, and the gifts would be forfeited to the crown, to be disposed of as her Majesty saw fit—a course which was deemed better than that of declaring such gifts void, since the crown could distribute them equitably. By thus preventing persons from assuming territorial titles, and preventing the existence of the dioceses or sees themselves, the bill would effectually remedy the mischief complained of, and it was very desirable that it should not be extended to cases which might not arise, or which the existing law was competent to reach, or which, being of a spiritual character, could not be effectually dealt with by legislation, and must be left to the good sense and judgment of the Roman Catholics themselves.

—Lord ASHLEY met the argument that the proceeding of the Pope is necessary to the development of the Roman Catholic religion. He granted that the act of 1829 gave full right and privilege to the Roman Catholics to diffuse, extend, and promote their religion; he allowed that the Roman Catholics have full power to convert their vicars apostolic into bishops; he knew perfectly well the detriment we should receive from the constitution of such a hierarchy, although it appears to be in perfect conformity with the concessions made in 1829. But no one has proved that territorial titles are necessary to the exercise of episcopal functions. They are worldly and material affairs of high importance, but the office of a bishop is spiritual altogether. In nothing was this distinction more clearly shown than in the very appointment of a Protestant bishop in Jerusalem, which Dr. Wiseman had quoted on the other side. Instead of being styled “Bishop of Jerusalem”—which would be a territorial and therefore an aggressive title—he was styled in his deed of consecration, “Alexander, Bishop of the United Church of England and Ireland, *resident in Jerusalem.*” This distinction between territorial and personal dignity has been observed by nations in matters of civil sovereign rule, as well as in these instances of ecclesiastical government. The revolutions of 1830 in France and Belgium placed on the throne kings who were specifically entitled “King of the French,” and not “of France,” and “King of the Belgians,” not “of Belgium”: there was the testimony of two nations as to the importance of a territorial title. The territorial office is unrestricted; the personal one is restricted to those alone who yield it submission; and this office is sufficient for all the purposes of spiritual rule. Lord Ashley quoted Mr. Hallam’s impartial historic testimony on the aggressive opposition of the canon law to the civil laws of every realm; its declarations that “the laws of kings are not preëminent over the ecclesiastical law, but are subordinate to them,” and that “oaths disadvantageous to the interests of the church are not to be considered as oaths, but rather as perjuries.” Lord Ashley concluded with an impressive warning to those within our own church who, he be-

lieved, had invited this attack, against the further results of their proceedings, amongst which might be, he feared, a collision betwixt the clergy and the laity, which would go very far to purify the church.—Mr. PAGE WOOD discussed the legal bearings of the subject, international and domestic. He especially dwelt upon the distinction between the personal and territorial jurisdiction marked by Lord Ashley; showed that the word “diocese” has from the time when Cicero himself used it (speaking of the diocese of Cilicia) meant a local district, including every inhabitant in it, and that a Bishop of Westminster is therefore a widely different thing from a Bishop in Westminster; he added illustrations founded on the personal and unterritorial jurisdiction in Turkey of the consular agents of the Levant Company; and followed out the English law of the subject explained by the Attorney-General, by referring to the principle that it is an indictable offence to hold even a court-leet, the smallest jurisdiction known to our law, without a delegation of authority from the crown or by parliament. In reference to Dr. Wiseman’s implied excuse that every instrument has its proper form, he stated that the instrument by which Pope Gregory the Sixteenth enlarged the English vicariates spoke throughout not of a Roman Catholic Church in England, but merely of the members of the Roman Catholic faith in England. He referred with pleasure to an encyclical letter, in which the four chief Patriarchs of the East had repudiated with astonished indignation the insulting aggression of the Bishop of Rome.—Sir GEORGE GREY replied to the three charges brought against the government—namely, giving titles of honour and respect, such as “your Grace,” to Roman Catholic prelates; addressing these prelates by titles prohibited by law; and lastly, that a member of the government had a previous knowledge of the intentions of the court of Rome. He did not deny the first, and declined offering an excuse for it. He did deny the second charge, and declared that the letter of Mr. Disraeli, in which it was preferred, was full of blunders. He also corrected an error on the part of Lord St. Germans with reference to this point, which had crept into the work of Dr. Twiss. With regard to the last charge—that, prior to the promulgation of the bull, a direct communication upon the subject had been made by the Pope to Lord Minto—Sir George referred to the distinct denial of his lordship; and with respect to the statement of Abbat Hamilton, quoted by Mr. Roebuck, he admitted that the abbat had written upon the subject to Lord Minto, who, in return, had acknowledged that he had received an intimation of an intention to confer upon Dr. Wiseman archiepiscopal rank, but repeated that down to the promulgation of the bull he had been in total ignorance of any design to establish a hierarchy. In conclusion, he vindicated the manifestation of public feeling from the imputation of bigotry: it was a national demonstration against an attempt to force upon us a foreign domination, which our ancestors had successfully withstood.—Mr P. HOWARD moved the adjournment of the debate, which after short discussion, and an adverse division, was agreed to.

Mr. ANSTEE moved for leave to bring in a bill for the repeal of enactments imposing certain *Disabilities on her Majesty’s Roman Catholic subjects*, which, upon a division, was refused by 175 against 35.

On Tuesday, the 10th, Mr. DISRAELI moved his resolution on *Agricultural Distress*, in the following terms:—“That the severe distress which continues to exist in the United Kingdom among that important class of her Majesty’s subjects the owners and occupiers of land, and which is justly lamented in her Majesty’s Speech, renders it the duty of her Majesty’s Ministers to introduce without delay such measures as may be most effectual for the relief thereof.” He observed that the fact, admitted in the speech from the throne, that, concurrently with the general prosperity of the country, there was a continued depression of a particular class, well deserved, not only the consideration of the government, but the deliberation of Parliament, in order to ascertain the nature and sources of that particular distress. He then referred to the anticipations which had been formed five years ago as to the future prices of agri-

cultural produce, and the effects of the change of system upon landed property. The result had been the reluctant recognition of continued distress among the agricultural classes, after attempts in past years, on the part of the government, to represent the depression of prices as exceptional and temporary, and to prove that what had happened could not possibly recur. He did not mean to build upon these results a proposition to retrace our steps; but if all the estimates upon which changes of system had been founded were wrong, and all the calculations erroneous, and if a most important class continued depressed amid the general prosperity, it was the duty of Parliament to investigate the subject in a charitable spirit, and to adopt the course which reason and policy dictated. He vindicated the character and conduct of British farmers from the stigma of sloth and want of skill, and characterised the outcry against rent, and the plea that this was a landlords' question, as economical fallacies, tending to arm one agricultural class against another. The object of his motion was not to dispute the fact of the general prosperity of the country, or to attack the new commercial system, but to adapt the condition of the owners and occupiers of land to that system. He should make no attempt to bring back the abrogated system of protection; if that system was to be restored, it must be done by a very preponderating opinion out of doors. What, then, was the reason why the cultivator of our soil could not compete with the foreign producer? It was the amount of taxation to which he was liable, and which had been allowed to press unequally upon him in consequence of the artificial state in which agriculture was formerly placed. The great mass of our general taxation was supplied from three sources—external imposts, inland revenue, and local contributions. Nearly one-half of the first was raised by not permitting the cultivators of the soil to produce a particular crop, or loading it with a peculiar impost; two-thirds of the inland revenue were raised by a colossal tax upon one crop of the British agriculturists; while of the 12,000,000*l.* of local contributions, 7,000,000*l.* was paid by them, and the whole was levied upon a very limited class. Mr. Disraeli entered into the details of these several burdens, urging at much length the hardships they inflicted upon the landed interest; and with respect to the last, referred to the proposal he made last session for relieving the land in the matter of local taxation—a question which had been since much advanced. He urged, in addition, the severity with which the tithe fell upon owner and occupier, not merely in the commutation, but in the incidence of the charge itself, which Mr. McCulloch thought justified an adequate countervailing duty upon foreign corn. All these facts proved that the British farmer was overweighted. But it was said that the land enjoyed exemptions. The amount of these exemptions Mr. Disraeli endeavoured to show was comparatively small or illusory, and he opposed to these exemptions the land tax. It was only by that powerful instrument, the property and income tax, that our present financial system was upheld, and from the returns of that tax, it appeared that at least one-half was levied from the owners and occupiers of land—from owners whose rents were reduced, and from occupiers without profits. What these classes required was only severe justice; they did not shrink from competition, but they asked not to be forced into it unprepared. He desired no legislation that was not consistent with the welfare of all her Majesty's subjects, not excluding one particular class which it was now acknowledged had been treated with injustice.—The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER observed that Mr. Disraeli had brought forward no clear or definite proposition. Sir Charles justified the opinions he had expressed in past years respecting the effects of the change in our commercial policy; he had never concealed his apprehensions of the difficulties which agriculture, like manufactures, might experience upon the withdrawal of protection, but he thought still that it would revive and stand upon a sounder foundation than before. The anticipations of the advocates of free trade had not proved more exaggerated than the gloomy forebodings of its opponents. The distress alleged to exist among our agriculturists was paralleled in France, notwithstanding its large exports of corn to

this country and its importing none. The diminished price of meat here was the result of increased production, and cattle were produced at a cheaper rate. In Ireland as well as England the numbers of able-bodied paupers were rapidly diminishing. Wages, in relation to prices, were higher than during the war. In almost all the articles of a poor man's consumption the fall of prices during the last ten years had greatly exceeded the fall of wages. While the labouring classes were thus benefited, there had been no reduction of rents commensurate with the diminution of prices. Sir Charles then reviewed the several burdens alleged to fall peculiarly upon the land, and the objections which Mr. Disraeli had offered to other remedies than his own. Assuming that Mr. Disraeli asked to be relieved from the Customs duty on tobacco, and the Excise duty on malt, hops, and spirits, he asked him, how would he provide for the public expenditure? It could only be by re-imposing those duties which, with so much advantage to the country, had been repealed. Sir Charles read statements of our foreign trade, showing an increase of our exports perfectly unexampled, and asked whether it was possible that a legislation which had produced such results could be wrong? No protected interest ever lost protection without transient suffering; agriculture had not been the only interest protected; the others had recovered from their depression, and now flourished beyond precedent; the application of capital and improved processes of cultivation would produce the same result in agriculture, and enable the British farmer successfully to compete with foreigners.—Mr. G. BERKELEY and Mr. SANDARS briefly supported the motion, and the debate was adjourned.

On Wednesday, the 12th of February, the adjourned debate on the *Papal Aggression* was resumed in a thin House.—Mr. P. HOWARD opposed the bill, as an arrogant interference with the right of private property.—Mr. NAPIER supported it, as not only a just and wise, but a merciful measure.—Mr. KEOGH objected to the operation of the measure in Ireland; and Mr. ANSTAY contended that it ought not to be extended to that country.—Colonel THOMPSON supported the bill; to the surprise of Mr. HUME, who said that, up to that moment he had regarded the gallant Colonel as one of the most resolute and consistent friends of religious liberty.—Lord J. RUSSELL replied to various objections made by the opponents of the bill; and the house adjourned at six o'clock.

On Thursday, the 13th, the debate on the *Agricultural Question* was resumed by the Marquis of GRANBY, who repeated the usual Protectionist assertions and arguments.—Sir JAMES GRAHAM replied to them; and stated a number of facts to show that the alleged distress among the landlords, the farmers, and the labourers, does not exist; and he arrived at the conclusion, that the day for recalling Protection, or for any attempt to enhance the price of food, is past. "And why," he exclaimed, "do I say so? I say there is not a ploughboy who treads the heaviest clay in England who does not feel practically his condition improved within the last three years; and he knows the reason why. I tell you there is not a shepherd on the most distant and barren hill of Scotland who does not now have daily a cheaper and a larger mess of porridge than he ever had before; and he also knows the reason why. I tell you again there is not a weaver in the humblest cottage in Lancashire who has not fuller and cheaper meals, without any fall in his wages, than he had before; and he knows the reason why. Now I must tell you the whole truth: the time has arrived when the truth fully must be spoken. I will speak of another class still. There is not a soldier who returns to England from abroad who does not practically feel that his daily pay is augmented, that he has a cheaper, larger, and a better mess, and that he enjoys greater comforts; and he also knows the reason. Now, sir, I entreat my honourable friends who sit below me to be on their guard. You may convulse the country—you may endanger property—you may shake our institutions to the foundations—but I am satisfied there is no power in England which can permanently enhance, by force of law, the price of bread. Now, that is my honest and firm conviction. The peace of this

country, my own possessions, are as dear to me as to any honourable gentleman who sits on the benches below me; but I feel we have arrived at the period when it is necessary to speak the truth, and I have spoken it without reservation." From these observations, which were made amid loud and reiterated cheers, Sir James Graham passed to an examination of the views propounded by Mr. Disraeli. He contended that the real object of the motion was the reimposition of the tax on corn, and warned the supporters of Free Trade to be on their guard, for a serious conflict was at hand.—The motion was supported by Mr. Booker, Mr. Cayley, Colonel Dunne, Lord Jocelyn, Mr. B. Cochrane, and Mr. Muntz; and opposed by Mr. Labouchere, Mr. Cardwell, Mr. Cobden, and Lord John Russell. On the division, the numbers were, for the motion, 267; against it, 281; majority, 14.

On Friday, the 14th, the debate on the *Papal Aggression* was concluded. Mr. **FREDERICK PEELE** objected to the measure. The bill seemed to him unable to claim the merit of being a permanent and comprehensive settlement of the questions agitated; and especially he doubted if it would not wholly fail as a weapon to prevent or control synodical action: it would only afford another illustration proving how utterly powerless the heavy arm of temporal power is in dealing with the voluntary submission of the mind—with those questions of imaginary sentiments, as they have been called, which reside within the precincts of the conscience.—Mr. **MILNER GIBSON** said, that this was the first time since he had been in parliament that he had been invited to impose civil disabilities on account of religious convictions. The proposers of this bill could not be sincere when they declared it to be founded on a principle, and yet limited its operation to the United Kingdom. But throughout the country this question had not been taken up, as was pretended, on the ground of an alleged invasion of the temporal rights of the Sovereign, but on theological grounds, and in the spirit of bigotry. He had no confidence in the Downing-street divinity of the first minister, whom he accused of "aggression" upon Protestantism; nor could he see with what propriety the topic of what was called Puseyism had been imported into the question. Characterising this bill as a retrograde step, for which no reasonable cause had been given, but in favour of which much clap-trap had been spoken from the ministerial benches, he regretted the junction of the dissenters in the agitation, defended the Irish Catholic bishops from the charge of having generally interfered with the government scheme of education, and found fault with the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Bishop of London for having given advice as to the preparation of the present measure. He expressed his certainty that the proposed law would be nugatory, and concluded by announcing his determined opposition to the bill.—Mr. **BROTHERTON** had abstained from any part in the agitation, and should abstain from any part in the debate; except to quote from letters by Roman Catholic constituents at Salford—where, as at Manchester, Catholics are among the most influential citizens—to the effect that, "unless government will protect us, [the Catholic laity,] all our charity-land and other property will pass into the control of the Court of Rome."—The other speakers against the bill were, Mr. Fagan, Mr. Sadleir, Mr. Scully, Mr. Scholefield, with Mr. Baring Wall; the last-named gentleman declaring it the maximum of persecution, because no persecution is so grating as bit-by-bit persecution, to be dealt out according to the mental reservation with which it is submitted to. In favour of the bill, Sir James Duke, who was also a strong defender of the Premier, Mr. G. A. Hamilton, Mr. Cumming Bruce, Mr. Fox Maule, Mr. Muntz, and Colonel Sibthorp; the last in duty to his Sovereign, on whose attachment to the Church he places implicit reliance. The House divided about midnight. The numbers were, for the introduction of the bill, 395; against the introduction, 63; majority for ministers, 332.

On Monday the 17th, in a Committee of Ways and Means, the **CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER** made his *Financial Statement*. He began by stating the probable estimate of receipt and expenditure up to the 5th

of April next, and for the subsequent year. The probable surplus on the 5th of April next he calculated at 2,521,000*l.* He estimated the total income for the ensuing year at 52,140,000*l.*, and the entire expenditure at 50,247,176*l.*; which would leave a surplus on the 5th April, 1852, of 1,892,000*l.* As regarded the income tax, he said that if its renewal were refused, the deficiency in the revenue would amount to 3,600,000*l.* He then defended his own conduct as regarded the income tax, and after pointing out that the alternatives of the course he suggested were either a "deficit," a reduction of expenditure, or the imposition of new taxes, he urged all those who favoured the system which the present ministry had been so long endeavouring to carry out to give him their support. He then proceeded to say, that if the house should agree to renew the income tax, the first claim upon him would, he conceived, be the reduction of our debts. Twenty years of peace had added twenty-seven millions to those debts. Last year, however, he had been enabled—and he stated it with pleasure he could hardly express—to pay off the two millions which had been borrowed in 1848, and he was now able to contemplate a nearly similar reduction. His idea was, that there should be a reserve of about one million surplus, and this the proposals he was about to make would enable him to retain. He then proceeded to the remission of taxation; and first adverted to the window tax, as a tax which, affecting the health and morals of the poorer class, deserved the first consideration. This tax brought 1,856,000*l.*, and its total repeal would of course absorb the whole surplus. Such repeal was therefore impossible. But he proposed to abolish the window tax in so far as it affected the number of windows in a house. As a substitution for such part of that tax as he could not resign, he proposed to impose a house tax, to be levied, not upon the size of the house, but upon its value. He proposed that his enactment should apply to all new houses, and that there should be a modification of the present system as regarded existing houses. All existing houses not of the annual value of 20*l.* were to be exempted from tax. All houses of the value of 20*l.* and upwards were to pay as house tax two-thirds of what they now pay as window tax. Houses of more than 20*l.* value, which do not now pay window tax, were also to pay according to the above rate. The rate of duty would be lower than that of the old house tax, and would be 1*s.* in the pound; but dwelling-houses which were partly used as shops, houses where beer was sold to be drunk on premises, and farm-houses occupied by tenants, would pay 9*d.* in the pound. This would exempt 120,000 houses which now pay window tax, and would cause about 30,000 to pay 12*s.* a year, and the relief would include the great majority of farm-houses. By this alteration he expected to lose 700,000*l.* Secondly, he proposed to equalise the duties on foreign and colonial coffee, and to reduce them to a uniform duty of 3*d.* By this he expected to lose 176,000*l.* Thirdly, he proposed to reduce the duty on foreign timber to half its present amount, and thereby he would sacrifice 286,000*l.* Fourthly, he proposed to reduce the only tax which was unfairly borne by the agriculturists, namely, that on seeds, of which clover and grass seeds paid nearly the whole. The duty was now 5*s.* the cwt. on foreign seeds, and 2*s.* 6*d.* on colonial seeds. He intended to impose a uniform duty of 1*s.* per cwt. on all foreign seed. By this he should lose 30,000*l.* Fourthly, he would partially relieve the county localities of the charge of pauper lunatics. He proposed to charge 150,000*l.* a year on the general revenue, for the purpose of reducing the expense of maintaining a pauper lunatic to that of supporting an ordinary pauper. His intended reductions, together with that which, by the present law, would be made in the sugar duties (330,000*l.*), would amount to 1,522,000*l.*; but he did not expect actually to lose so much, as the increase in the customs would partly make up the loss on sugar; and, after other calculations, he estimated the total loss to the revenue from the contemplated changes at 1,280,000*l.* This would leave a surplus of 962,000*l.* for the ensuing year (as one half-year's payment of the present window tax will be due in April next), and of 612,000*l.* for future years. He then adverted to the complaints of

the owners and occupiers of land, whom he declined to relieve to any further extent, and concluded by moving the resolution for continuing the income tax for three years, and also for continuing the stamp duties in Ireland.—A number of members made critical remarks on this financial scheme.—Mr. HUME complained that the window tax was not to be repealed unconditionally, and that the military establishments were not to be reduced.—Viscount Duncan and Mr. Wakley enforced the claims of the payers of the window tax; Alderman Sidney, Sir B. Hall, and Lord Dudley Stuart, those of the payers of income tax; Mr. Hodges, Mr. Frewen, and Mr. Hope, complained that hop-growers are still denied any help in their distress.—Mr. Newdegate, Mr. Frewen, Sir William Jolliffe, and Mr. Banks, expressed their sense of the mockery of relief which is offered to distressed agriculture generally. Mr. WAKLEY closed the conversation with the declaration of his firm conviction that the proposal on the subject of the window tax would be so hostily received that Sir C. Wood would find it impossible to carry it out.—Mr. HERRIES suggested, and Lord JOHN RUSSELL assented, that the further discussion should take place on Friday following.

On Tuesday, the 18th, the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER announced his intention of introducing a *Savings Bank Bill*.

In answer to Mr. HUME, Sir G. GREY stated that the trustees of the *British Museum* had taken measures for the better accommodation of the public.

In reply to Mr. KEOGH, Lord J. RUSSELL was unable to say whether any Roman Catholics were placed on the *Dublin University Commission*.

Mr. P. SCROPE brought forward his motion for a select committee to consider the expediency of assimilating the *Poor Laws* of England, Scotland, and Ireland, and promoting the productive employment of able-bodied paupers. The hon. member's argument was cut short by the house being counted out.

On Wednesday the 19th, a petition against the window tax, presented by Lord DUNCAN, was *refused*; the petitioners having expressed "surprise" at the statement made in the house by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and any reference to the debates in a petition being informal.

Sir G. GREY obtained leave to introduce a bill, which was read a first time, to amend the law relating to the *expenses of prosecutions*. The object of the bill is to subject those expenses to the regulation of the Secretary of State for the Home Department, to empower magistrates in quarter sessions to pay the clerk of the peace by salary instead of fees, to restore to the quarter sessions within the district of the Central Criminal Court the jurisdiction recently taken away from them, and to facilitate criminal proceedings in towns and cities being counties of themselves, but not for assize purposes.—Mr. F. MACKENZIE was afraid the bill, if extended to Scotland, would there tend to increase expense.—Mr. HUME approved of the bill, which would greatly facilitate proceedings, and lessen the expense.—Mr. S. WORTLEY called attention to the necessity of having the depositions put in shape by some functionary, without, however, creating the office of a public prosecutor.—Mr. HENLEY was afraid that the employment of barristers in getting up the cases would increase the expense. Something, however, must be done to prevent the miscarriage of prosecutions.

Sir G. GREY obtained leave to bring in a bill for the *removal of Smithfield Market*. After stating the proceedings taken by the parliamentary committee of 1849, and by the government commission subsequently appointed, and the communications which had passed between the commission and the Corporation of London, from which it appeared that the latter, having submitted a plan of its own, of which the commissioners took no notice, declined entertaining the plan of the commissioners, the right hon. baronet explained the provisions of the bill, which enables the crown to appoint five "Metropolitan Cattle-market Commissioners," with power to establish and regulate a cattle and a meat market (the former not within five miles from St. Paul's), and to exercise a control over slaughterhouses. Ample time would be given for its consideration.—Mr. BUCK, on the

part of the farmers, expressed his gratitude to the government.—Mr. A. STAFFORD objected to the immense amount of patronage, and the large discretionary powers, given by the bill, and to its wholesale interference with public charters and private property.—Mr. S. WORTLEY, as the only member connected with the City then present, suggested that the rival plan of the Corporation should be referred to the same committee.—Mr. ELLIS hailed the bill, on behalf of the graziers. The bill was then read a first time and referred to the Select Committee of Standing Orders.

On Thursday the 20th, it was resolved, on the motion of Sir G. GREY, that no bill connected with the *supply of water* to the metropolis should be considered till at least one week after the Easter recess, to give time for the preparation of a bill on the same subject by the Board of Health.

In answer to Sir D. L. EVANS, Lord SEYMOUR expressed his hope that the provisions of the *Extramural Interments Act* would soon be brought into practical operation.

Mr. SLANEY moved for "a Select Committee to consider the *law of Partnership*, and the propriety of limitations of liabilities, with the view to encourage useful enterprise, and the additional employment of labour."—At the suggestion of Mr. LABOUCHERE, the motion was modified by the substitution of the words "the expediency of facilitating the limitation of liability," for the words "the propriety of limitations of liabilities;" and in this amended form the motion was unanimously adopted.

Mr. LOCKE KING moved for leave to bring in a bill to make the *Franchise* in counties in England and Wales the same as that in boroughs, by giving the right of voting to all occupiers of tenements of the annual value of 10*l*. The hon. member explained that he did not intend to interfere with the provisions of the Reform Bill, but only to extend to inhabitants in one locality the franchise which that bill gave to the same class of inhabitants in another locality. The measure proposed by him was small and comparatively insignificant, and would tend to strengthen rather than to weaken the Monarchy and the House of Lords. It was only applying to England the principle recognised by the legislature last year in regard to Ireland,—the principle, namely, of placing the borough and county franchise on the same footing. The argument then used, that the county constituencies had decreased, was equally applicable to this country. In 1843, the total number of county electors in England was 481,073; in 1850, it was only 461,413; in the boroughs, on the contrary, there was an increase of 50,000. Addressing himself to the Protectionist benches, Mr. KING said, that, after what had recently occurred at an election, in not the least aristocratic part of England, he might fairly claim the support of the hon. gentlemen who had, up to a recent period, supported Protection; for he believed it would be found that those who had only very lately repudiated the principle of Protection would find it exceedingly difficult to re-obtain their seats unless they appealed to constituencies with an extended suffrage. He knew something of the farmers of this country, and could testify that when they had once formed an opinion it was very difficult to shake it. They had been so taught and tutored to cling to Protection, that they would not be induced to give it up at a moment's notice for any one; and, though hon. gentlemen might attempt to persuade them that it was not a question of rent, they would continue to maintain, that, if it was not a case of Protection, it must be one of rent. He rejoiced greatly at the admission made by the hon. member for Buckinghamshire on behalf of his party, which completed the triumph of the hon. member for the West Riding. He hoped the hon. member for Buckinghamshire, with the enlarged views which he had recently adopted, would not attempt to coalesce with the electors who had been created under the 50*l*. Chandos clause, to answer a political purpose. He trusted the hon. member would go with them for an extended suffrage, and that they would no longer hear any thing about what he believed he might say had now been partially renounced—he meant the re-establishment of the dangerous doctrines of Protection. In conclusion, he observed that his motion stood on a

more favourable footing this session than in the last, when a bill was passed which extended a similar franchise to Ireland; and if the principle was sound in that case, he claimed for this country what had been conceded to the sister kingdom.—Lord JOHN RUSSELL, in opposing the motion, admitted that he had on a former occasion acknowledged that he thought some extension of the franchise desirable, and he still considered it desirable that a measure should be introduced for a further extension of the suffrage. I can see no reason (said Lord John) why, after this session has passed, and at the commencement of the next session, there should not be laid before this house by the government a proposal in respect to this question of parliamentary reform. Certainly, if I am a member of the government at that time, I shall deem it my duty to lay my views on this subject before the House of Commons. I know perfectly well that those views would not altogether meet with the approbation of the hon. member for Montrose and of other gentlemen who agree with him. But I have so often stated the difference of opinion which exists between us, that it ought to create no surprise in his mind at finding that I have come to a practical conclusion essentially distinct from that proposal which he has laid from time to time before the house. I do, however, think it is desirable, considering that by next session twenty years will have elapsed since the passing of the Reform bill—that we should then consider whether there are not great numbers of our people not possessed by that act of the franchise, who are not only fully qualified to exercise the suffrage, but whose exercise of the suffrage would tend to the improvement of the character of this house. I am, myself, perfectly satisfied with the experience we have had of that act. I believe that the representation since 1832 has been such as to give confidence to the people at large, which confidence they would not have had in a house of commons in which were members for Old Sarum and for Gatton, and in which were not members for Manchester, and Leeds, and Birmingham. I am, therefore, perfectly satisfied that the influence of that Reform bill, loudly as it was denied at the time that it could be so, has been salutary; and, therefore, in any changes we may take, we ought to consult the spirit of that Reform act—we ought to consult the temper and the genius of the people of these united kingdoms, and not attempt to construct any fanciful edifice based upon any new theory of our own, but, building upon the old foundation, continually endeavour to improve the symmetry and add to the convenience of the ancient habitation.—Mr. HUME insisted that the motion should be acceded to upon the grounds of policy and justice. Lord John Russell, the advocate of free trade and liberal measures, should desire to extend the basis of the representation in order to neutralise the opposition of the landed interest.—Mr. CORDELL had heard with pleasure the pledge given by Lord John Russell that he would bring in a measure for improving the system of representation, the faults of which had been exemplified in recent elections; and he hoped the noble lord would address himself to the task with the conviction that the people would be disappointed with a measure not commensurate with the existing evils. With respect to the motion, he remarked the noble lord made no objection to the class of persons proposed to be admitted to the franchise. It did not follow that 10% householders would not be as independent as the 50% tenants-at-will; they would probably be more so, since they would be less under the control of their landlords.—The house then divided, when the motion was carried (against the government), by 100 against 52.

On Friday the 21st, on the opening of the house, it was crowded with excited members, anxious to learn the ministerial determinations with regard to the budget: expectation had been increased by the understood determination of the Protectionist party to move an amendment. After some business of minor importance, the order for going into Committee of Ways and Means on the Income-tax was read.—Lord JOHN RUSSELL rose and said: "Sir, I have to request that this order of the day shall be postponed to Monday. On Monday next I shall state the reasons to the house why I have made this request."—After a short pause, Mr. HERBERT said: "I wish to ask the noble lord, if it is intended positively

to proceed with the Committee of Ways and Means on Monday next?"—Lord JOHN RUSSELL: "I cannot state positively; it is intended, at present, to do so on Monday; but on Monday next I will state the reasons why I postpone it now, and the course I intend to take." A noise of conversation instantly pervaded the house; some unimportant motions were agreed to in dumb show, and at six o'clock the house broke up.

On Monday the 24th, Lord JOHN RUSSELL made a statement similar to that made in the Lords by the Marquis of Lansdowne. His explanation was brief. Adverting to the results of Mr. Disraeli's and Mr. Locke King's motions—the first giving the government a majority of only fourteen upon a vital question, the second leaving them in a minority—he said he had come to the conclusion that they were not in a position to conduct satisfactorily the business of the country in that house during the session. He had therefore, with the concurrence of his colleagues, tendered their resignation to her Majesty, who had accepted it, and informed him of her intention to send for Lord Stanley, to take the charge of forming a government. He (Lord John) had since been informed by her Majesty that Lord Stanley had stated that he was not then prepared to form a government, and her Majesty had asked him (Lord John) to undertake the charge of re-constructing one. He had thought it his duty to attempt the task, and had assured her Majesty that he would undertake it. In the meanwhile he asked the house to adjourn until Friday.—Mr. DISRAELI expressed his conviction that it would be found, when Lord Stanley gave his explanation in his place in parliament, that in saying that Lord Stanley had informed her Majesty that he was not then prepared to form an Administration, Lord J. Russell had made a statement to the house which, on further consideration, he would acknowledge was not founded upon what had really occurred.—Lord JOHN RUSSELL felt assured that Lord Stanley's explanation would bear out what he said.—Mr. ROEBUCK hoped that Lord J. Russell, as leader not only of a great party in that house, but of a great principle, would not forget that that principle was now in his hands.

PROGRESS OF BUSINESS.

House of Lords.—Feb. 4th. The Session opened by the Queen. Address agreed to.

7th. Law of Evidence Bill read a second time. Bill to Transfer the Business of Bankruptcy to the County Courts introduced by Lord Brougham.

13th. Bill for Simplifying Procedure on Criminal Trials introduced by Lord Campbell. County Courts Extension Bill introduced by Lord Brougham.

20th. Bill for Regulating the Court of Chancery announced by the Lord Chancellor.

21st. Bill for the Appointment of an Additional Vice-Chancellor brought in and read a first time. Criminal Procedure Bill read a second time. Bill for the Registration of Assurances of Titles in England and Wales brought in and read a first time.

24th. Statement by the Marquis of Lansdowne of the resignation of Ministers; and adjournment of the House to Friday.

House of Commons.—Feb. 4th. Address in answer to the Queen's speech agreed to.

5th.—Writ for Dungarvon superseded.—Midnight Sittings, Mr. Brotherton's motion negatived by 108 to 32.

11th.—Ceylon Committee.—Sunday Trading; leave for a Bill granted to Mr. Williams.

14th.—Irish Prerogative Court; leave for a Bill granted to Mr. Keogh.

17th.—Passengers' Act Amendment Bill read a second time.—Municipal Councils in Counties; leave for a Bill given to Mr. Ansell.—Valuation of Rateable Property in Ireland; leave for a Bill given to Sir W. Somerville.

19th.—Compound Householders' Bill read a second time.—Expenses of Prosecutions' Bill read a first time.—Smithfield Market Removal Bill read a first time and referred to Private Bills Committee.

20th.—Law of Partnership; Select Committee granted to Mr. Slaney.—Mr. Locke King's motion for extending the Franchise carried against ministers by 100 to 52.—Passengers' Act Amendment Bill, and Mills and Factories (Ireland) Bill, considered in committee.

21st.—Discussion on the Budget postponed at the desire of Lord John Russell, who promised explanation on Monday.

24th.—Statement by Lord John Russell that ministers had resigned, and that he had been requested to form a new administration. Adjournment to Friday.

The Ministerial Crisis consequent on Lord John Russell's resignation (see Narrative of Parliament) appears to have come to a termination by the accession of Lord Stanley. On Tuesday, the 25th, Lord John Russell having given up the task of forming a ministry, Lord Stanley was again sent for by her Majesty, and agreed to undertake the government. Names are mentioned of some of the chief members of the new ministry, but merely by rumour, nothing certain being known on the subject.

The Duke of Wellington has had occasion to explain his views in adopting the *Roman Catholic Relief Bill* in 1829. Mr. Thompson, of Dublin, in the name of a body of Protestant inhabitants, lately addressed a letter to the Duke, reminding him of certain words spoken by him in Parliament on that occasion, and calling upon him to make them good. The Duke is alleged to have said:—"If I am disappointed in my hopes of tranquillity after a trial has been given of the measure, I shall have no scruple in coming down to Parliament and calling for the necessary powers to enable the government to take the steps suited to the occasion." Mr. Thompson interprets this to be a promise, under present circumstances, to call for the repeal of the bill. The Duke has made a reply, in which he reminds Mr. Thompson that when he advocated the measure of relief he was at the time the First Lord of the Treasury and the Minister of the Crown, conducting the business of the Government in the House of Lords. He then goes on to say:—"If any doubt could be entertained of the meaning of the expressions used by the speaker in that character, such should have been sought for by a diligent and accurate examination of the context of the expressions; and words should not have been added in a parenthesis 'in other words' which, according to the published record, do not appear to have been used, and positively were not used by the speaker. If such examination and discussion should not have produced a clear understanding of the meaning of the speaker, who was the minister at the time and speaking in that character, his speeches upon the introduction to the house, and upon other stages of the same bill, should have been examined and considered. If that had been done, he believes that no individual, with common fairness, could have made such examination, and entertain the opinion that the minister who had addressed those speeches to the house, who had stated that the continued opposition to the Roman Catholic Relief Act was effete; that an administration could no longer be framed on the principle of considering as an open question all propositions for the relief of the disabilities of the Roman Catholics; that an administration could not be framed on the principle of refusing to consider measures of relief which should be satisfactory to the Sovereign and the Parliament, composed of individuals enjoying the confidence of the public in their capacity for conducting the business of the departments at the head of which they should severally be placed; that in the meantime Government and Parliament itself were exposed to great difficulties in consequence of the existing state of the law; that Mr. Daniel O'Connell, supposed to be disqualified by law to take his seat in the House of Commons, had been elected and returned as member for the county of Clare, in a severely contested election in which he had been candidate against Mr. Vesey Fitzgerald, one of the members of His Majesty's administration, who was well known in the country, had large property in it, and had for years, and at repeated elections, been returned to Parliament as its representative; that the same inconvenience and embarrassment were to be expected in case a vacancy should be occasioned, whether by the appointment to office, or the elevation to the peerage, or by the death of any member of Parliament for an Irish county; and still more extensive embarrassment in case of a general election in consequence of a dissolution of Parliament. For this state of things there was no remedy, excepting that one with which former governments had been charged without ground—viz., that of forcing the people to rebellion, which no government could adopt which was sensible of the enormity of the evils resulting from civil war in any country. The man who urged

these arguments could not have in his mind an intention eventually to propose to the house to repeal the law, and of which he was by these arguments urging the adoption, and ultimately to pass. Such examination and discussion would have been a fair course of proceeding. But it appears that the Protestants residing in Dublin, who have signed the address to the Duke of Wellington, have considered it preferable to alter the printed record of what the Duke did say in the House of Lords: and, in other words, inserted by themselves, and never used by the Duke of Wellington, to endeavour to show that the Duke declared in Parliament the intention of eventually proposing to Parliament the repeal of the Relief Act after it should have become the law." His Grace then desires Mr. Thompson to inform "the Protestant inhabitants of Dublin," that although in the service of Her Majesty, in the capacity of Commander-in-Chief of Her Majesty's Land Forces, he is not called to Her Majesty's Council; that in the capacity of Commander-in-Chief it is no part of his duty to receive, take into consideration, and submit to Parliament, the proposition of measures to relieve the inconveniences and evils of which Her Majesty's subjects in Ireland may complain, as resulting from the operation of any law. He points out that this duty devolves on the Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland; and suggests to the Protestants of Dublin that they should adopt this, the natural course, in order that their complaints may be taken into consideration, as he positively and distinctly declines to interfere in them in any manner whatever.

The *Two Houses of Convocation* met in the Jerusalem Chamber on the 5th, and their proceedings attracted more than ordinary attention. The Archbishop of Canterbury, with the Bishops of Oxford, Chichester, and Bath and Wells, were present in the Upper House: in the Lower House were Archdeacons Thorpe and Harrison, Dean Lyall, and Dr. Mill, the Hebrew Professor at Cambridge. In both Houses a petition was presented from the clergy and laity of the province of Canterbury, lamenting the suppression of the synodal action of the "Church of England" for the last hundred and fifty years; whence (it is said) has resulted her grievous injury in the weakening of the bonds of love and unity among churchmen, the growth of unsound doctrine, and the great increase of error, superstition, heresy, schism, ungodliness, immorality. This decay of true religion having been forcibly brought under attention by the recent aggressive measures of the Pope, her Majesty is implored to restore to the Church the freedom of her synodal action as in former times. The petition was presented to the Upper House by the Bishop of Chichester; to the Lower House it was presented by Archdeacon Thorpe. In the latter assembly, a discussion was raised on the question of competency to receive the petition; and a demand was made of a formal conference with the Upper House on the point. The conference was had, and the Archbishop of Canterbury delivered the opinion that the Lower House was legally competent. The Lower House accordingly was commencing a discussion of the petition, when the proper officers entered with a formal prorogation of both Houses, under the signature of the Archbishop.

It is announced that the Pope has conferred the dignity of Cardinal on the Most Rev. Dr. Cullen, "Lord Archbishop of Armagh, Primate of all Ireland, and Apostolic Delegate." It is also announced that the Very Rev. Tobias Kirby, president of the Irish College at Rome, has been appointed coadjutor Bishop of Dro-more to the Right Rev. Dr. Blake.

The bill brought into Parliament by Lord John Russell to counteract the *Papal Aggression*, has been published. It is entitled "A Bill to prevent the assumption of certain ecclesiastical titles in respect of places in the United Kingdom." It consists of four sections. The first section recites the 24th section of the Emancipation Act, by which it was enacted that persons other than those authorised by law assuming the title of any archbishopric or bishopric in England or Ireland, should forfeit one hundred pounds. It then recites that it may be doubted whether this extends to the assumption of a title from any place in England or Ireland, not being the see of any bishop or archbishop recognised by law;

but the attempt to establish, under colour of authority from the see of Rome or otherwise, such pretended sees, is illegal and void, and the assumption of ecclesiastical titles in respect thereof is inconsistent with the rights intended to be protected by the Emancipation Act; and that it is expedient to prevent the assumption of such titles. It is then enacted, that any person assuming such titles shall forfeit one hundred pounds for each offence, to be recovered by the Attorney-General. The second section makes void all deeds executed under such prohibited titles. The third section enacts, that where any property is given for the endowment of any archbishopric, bishopric, or deanery, designated as of any place in the United Kingdom, except those of the Established Church, or referring to the maintenance of any such prohibited sees, or vested in any person by a prohibited title, or in any chaplain or subordinate of such person, or in any person described in reference to such person, it shall without office found vest in her Majesty, to be disposed of under the sign manual. The fourth section requires all persons liable to penalties under the act to answer notwithstanding such liability.

The Hon. Stuart Knox has been returned without opposition for Dungannon.

Mr. Barrow has been returned for South Nottinghamshire, in opposition to Lord Newark.

Colonel Gilpin has been elected for Bedfordshire, in opposition to Mr. Houghton.

NARRATIVE OF LAW AND CRIME.

On the 1st inst., a young woman, named Harriet Vickers, applied for her discharge. Her case was a singular one. She resided with her sister, and followed no business. In the course of last year, a person named Scott, calling himself a lieutenant in the Navy, came to lodge at her sister's; and one day, when in company with a man named Davis, he asked her to put her name to a piece of paper which he told her was a receipt for 60*l.* that he had just paid to Davis. She consented, and signed the paper. A short time afterwards, Scott told her that the receipt she had witnessed was incorrect, and got her to put her name to another piece of paper in lieu of the former one she had signed. These papers turned out to be bills of exchange for 60*l.* each; one of which got into the hands of Mr. Philip Beyfus, of Bury-street, St. James's, and the other into those of Mr. Joseph Joel, of the Strand. Both of these parties sued her, and obtained judgment against her; and she, having no means of paying the bills, offered 20*l.*—all she had, arising from a bequest from her mother, but it was refused; she was arrested, taken to prison, and compelled to petition the Court for her discharge. These bills formed the only debts in the schedule. Mr. Commissioner Law instantly rendered the small measure of justice in his power by ordering Harriet Vickers to be discharged forthwith.

An investigation took place at the Kent Petty Sessions on the 3d inst., respecting the *Treatment of the Patients in a Lying-in Asylum* at West Malling, belonging to Dr. Maddock. The proceedings were instituted by the Commissioners in Lunacy. The complaint, framed under the act of parliament of the 8th and 9th Victoria, cap. 69, was against Dr. Maddock, the proprietor, and Mr. Perfect, the medical officer of the establishment, and charged them with having made false entries in the medical visitation book, and falsely represented that there were no persons in the asylum who were under restraint, when, in point of fact, it had been the constant practice for a considerable period to subject a great number of the patients, both male and female, to almost continual restraint. Two male and a female attendant were examined, and from their evidence it appeared that it had been the constant practice to restrain the patients; some of them by spring body-belts and handcuffs, others by iron leg-hobbles, and some were fastened to staples fixed in the floor. Other patients, in addition to the iron belt, had gloves attached to straps, by which the hands were fastened to the sides. Some of the patients when in bed were also secured by leg-

hobbles, which were strapped to the bedstead. Similar restraint was made use of with the female patients; and it was stated that in July, 1849, one of them was fastened by her ankle to a staple in the floor, and that in the spring of 1850 another female patient was confined by means of a strait-waistcoat and leg locks, or hobbles. It appeared in the course of the evidence that upon the occasions when the establishment was visited by the magistrates, or by the Commissioners in Lunacy, Dr. Maddock ordered all the patients to be released, and all the instruments of coercion to be put out of sight. The witnesses, however, admitted that some of the patients had been violent and dangerous, and that Dr. Maddock treated the patients generally with humanity. The magistrates called upon both the defendants to enter into recognizances of 200*l.*, with two sureties in 100*l.* each, for their appearance at the next Kent assizes.

In the Insolvent Debtors' Court, on the 3d inst., the case of *Henry Francis Leigh*, a clerk to the India Board of Control, was heard under the Protection Act. There was no opposition. The schedule contained the names of several bill discounters, and the insolvency was attributed to accommodation bills. The case was before the court in November, and had been adjourned for the purpose of effecting a settlement with the creditors, which had not, however, been carried out. Mr. Commissioner Phillips observed that the insolvent had fallen into the hands of an abandoned race—bill discounters. It was really enough to make him shed tears to behold the schedules he did. Here was the case of a young man with ample means, who had been speculated upon—who, with liabilities in the whole amounting to 15,000*l.*, had only received consideration for about 1000*l.* He thought it was a case for the Legislature, and that they should consider whether the usury laws had not been hastily repealed. He was glad the young man was not opposed, and should give him protection for an extended period, in the hope that some arrangement might be made with the creditors. Never again, did he hope, would the insolvent put his name to a bill. Protection was granted to the 31st March.

Mr. and Mrs. Sloane were tried before the Central Criminal Court on the 5th inst. The case excited great interest, and the court was crowded. Mr. Sloane entered with an agitated step; his wife followed, in such a state that she could hardly walk, and on her leaning against the dock she was allowed to have a seat. She is described as a "sallow-complexioned, plain-looking, little woman, from thirty to forty years of age, with nothing either strikingly prepossessing or repulsive in her expression." Sloane is described as "tall, and like a gentleman in dress and manner; his features are regular, his hair and complexion dark, his cheeks sunken, and the face generally rather careworn in character. He wears spectacles, and appears to be from thirty-six to thirty-eight years old." He turned several times to his wife, as if for the purpose of encouraging her; and it appeared to be at his request that a chair was brought for her. When asked to plead to the indictment, he did so without hesitation, but in a tone which betrayed the full consciousness of his degraded position. He then leaned forward, and appeared to tell his wife what to say; for, in a broken voice, she immediately repeated the words which he had used, "Not guilty as to the first two counts, but guilty as to the rest." The indictment seems to have been framed with the usual multiplicity of counts, framed to meet every possible circumstantial variety of facts that might come out. The counts to which the prisoners pleaded guilty were those which variously charged the assaults; those to which they pleaded not guilty embodied the charges of starvation. The defence against these latter charges was, that the counts were not good in law, on the ground that Jane Wilbred, being sixteen years of age, could not be considered as an infant of tender years. This defence was sustained, the Court observing that there was no evidence to show that any sort of duress was practised to restrain the girl or prevent her from going out. The jury, therefore, under the direction of the Court, found a verdict of Not Guilty on these counts. In giving judgment on the other counts, Justice Coleridge, after commenting with indignation on the conduct of the prisoners, sentenced them to imprisonment.

ment for two years. They heard the sentence without apparent emotion.

Three boys, the eldest fourteen, and the youngest nine years old, were charged on the 7th, at the Southwark Police Court, with attempting to pick the pockets of several persons in the gallery of the Victoria Theatre. The officer who took them described their great expertness, and said he had ascertained that they had all been brought up in the "Thieves' Kitchen," in a court in Gray's Inn-lane, where they were taught the art and mystery of picking pockets. The Magistrate said he had no doubt they were expert young thieves, but he thought that the youngest lad had been led away by the others, and he should discharge him, and send an officer with him home to his parents. The other prisoners were committed for a month to the Brixton House of Correction.

A most horrible *Murder* has been perpetrated at Nempnett, near Bristol. For many years past the village shop at Nempnett has been kept by an aged couple, named William and Sarah Wilkins. On Saturday morning, the 8th inst., two men, one named Wiles, a blacksmith, who has recently worked in the village, and the other named Smith, a labourer, called at the shop, and Wiles asked for a loaf of bread. Mrs. Wilkins was in the act of reaching it for him, when the ruffian struck her a violent blow on the head with a thick stick which he had taken into the shop with him. The poor old woman immediately fell to the earth insensible. Wiles then rushed at the husband, who was eating his breakfast in a settle at the upper end of the shop, and dealt him several heavy blows with the same weapon, and beat him with it on the head, then with a spade that was lying near, until life appeared to be extinct. Smith all the time stood at the door, for the purpose, it is supposed, of giving the alarm should any person approach the spot. Wiles proceeded to plunder his victims, and from the pocket of the old woman he took eight shillings in silver, a half-crown piece, and a knife. It appears that they were then disturbed, as the only further depredation they committed before making off was to take a few papers of tobacco and a loaf of bread from the shop. Some neighbours entering about half an hour afterwards found the old couple lying weltering in their blood, and the place in confusion. An outcry was of course instantly raised, and a messenger despatched for medical assistance. The old man's skull was fractured, and his body covered with bruises and wounds, and the injuries his wife had sustained were nearly equal in their extent and character. The former died about ten o'clock the same evening, but Mrs. Wilkins recovered sufficiently to give her evidence. The two men were apprehended at Blagdon, with some of the property in their pockets. Smith made a confession, and the prisoners were committed for trial at the assizes.

On the night of Sunday, the 9th, a man named Stevens died in a cell at the Police Station in Vine Street. He had been seen in the Quadrant, and it was supposed he had been drinking, as, after inquiring for an omnibus, he fell down insensible, and was carried by the police on a stretcher to the station, where he was laid on his side on the floor of the cell. About one in the morning, he got worse, and Mr. Tothill, the surgeon, was sent for, but before he arrived the man was dead. At the inquest on the body, the Coroner asked the inspector who took the charge whether he was not aware that there was a positive order of the commissioners, that persons taken to the station-house in a state of insensibility should immediately have the attendance of a medical man? The inspector replied that he knew of none such. The surgeon, on being appealed to, said there was such an order. The Coroner: Then here is an inspector of police who does not know what his orders are. A juror: Was it not very improper to lay him on the floor with nothing under his head? The surgeon: Certainly it was. The jury returned a verdict that "the deceased died of apoplexy, but they knew not what caused it; and that the police had been guilty of great neglect in not getting medical assistance."

William Smyth, a surgeon, in good practice, residing in Vauxhall Walk, was charged on the 10th, at Lam-

beth Police Court, with an *Assault* on Mary Ann Hall, a girl thirteen years of age. The evidence disclosed scenes of the most disgusting profligacy. It appeared that the prisoner, who is a married man and nearly 60 years of age, but separated from his wife, had in his confidence two strumpets, whom he induced to invite to his house a number of girls whose ages ranged from sixteen to eighteen years. Once within his reach, the prisoner commenced by plying his victims with spirits or wine; and the names of seven or eight were mentioned whom he thus succeeded to ruin. The magistrate exclaimed, that in the whole course of many years' experience it had not been his misfortune to hear disclosed such a scene of abominable profligacy, which made one doubt whether we lived in a civilised or barbarous state of society. An application to be admitted to bail was indignantly refused.

The case of the Birds, convicted at the Exeter Assizes of *Assaults* on the girl Parsons which caused her death, was decided on the 12th, by fourteen of the fifteen Judges in the Exchequer Chamber. The Court was nearly equally divided, the numbers being eight against six. The larger number have determined that the Birds could not have been convicted at the first trial of the assaults proved against them at the second; that they have not therefore been twice "in peril" on the same charge; and that the conviction in the second trial must stand good. Sentence will be passed on them at the next assizes. The eight Judges who formed the majority were, Justices Williams, Wightman, Coleridge, and Patteson, of the Queen's Bench, Justices Erle, Talfourd, and Cresswell of the Common Pleas, and Chief Baron Pollock; the minority of six were, Mr. Justice Maule of the Common Pleas, Barons Parke, Alderson, and Martin, Chief Justice Jervis of the Common Pleas, and the Lord Chief Justice Campbell. The Judges gave their opinions individually. Lord Campbell declared, that though he readily yielded to the opinions of the majority, he could extract from those opinions no certain rule for the future; and he feared that without the intervention of Parliament, "notwithstanding our best efforts to be unanimous, we ourselves, as well as others, may again find it difficult to anticipate the result of our deliberations." He therefore hoped that the legislature would speedily repeal or explain the enactment which had caused such confusion.

A striking instance of the *efficiency of the Detective Police* occurred on the 12th, in the capture of a man charged with the commission of a desperate murder at Warrington, in Lancashire, a short time since. The prisoner is an Irishman, named Lyons, and after his commission of the crime with which he stands charged, information was forwarded to the Dublin police-officers, by some of whom the fellow was known, to the effect that he had enlisted into the service of the East India Company. One of the Dublin officers, named Kavanagh, was immediately set upon his track, and soon traced him to London, where he ascertained that he had arrived by the mail train at four o'clock on the above morning. Kavanagh at once communicated with Mr. Mayne, the chief commissioner, who immediately directed inspector Field, of the Detective Force, to assist the Dublin officer. Mr. Field, with sergeant Thornton, of the Detectives, soon traced the prisoner to a public-house in Charles-street, Westminster, where the officers succeeded in apprehending him just as he was sitting down to dinner. He was sent down to Warrington in custody of Kavanagh, the Dublin officer. He would have been sent to Worley barracks the same day preparatory to his embarkation for the East Indies, had not the officers succeeded in effecting his apprehension.

Jane Wilbred, the *victim of the cruelty of the Sloanes*, has been admitted into the Metropolitan Convalescent Institution, Sackville-street, whose object is to afford a short change of air to poor persons who cannot be restored without it. She is now in the institution's asylum at Carshalton, with every prospect that in a short time she will be completely restored and fit for service.

A case, curiously illustrative of *The Profits of Mendicancy*, has occurred at the Isle of Wight Borough Court. A vagrant, named David Brooks, pretending to

be deaf and dumb, was brought up in custody, having been found lying drunk on the pavement on Sunday evening. He wrote on his slate, in a good firm hand, that the landlords and landladies of the town had behaved in a shameful way to him, by refusing him a bed, but that if he was liberated for this time he would leave the town directly. On searching his pockets, the constable turned out a Prayer-book, and some written prayers and cards, which he offered to the notice of the humane and benevolent; and amongst the collection appeared several memorandum books, by which it was clearly proved that he kept a daily entry of his collections and expenditure, as well as the "Beggar's Directory," containing the names and residences of the charitable throughout the kingdom, with the roosting-places for the night. Some idea may be formed of the amount of money collected by these vagabonds, when it appears from this man's cash-book, that the islands of Jersey and Guernsey furnished him with the sum of 10l. 3s. 6d. for twelve days' trouble in collecting it. Ryde contributed 20s. during the previous week, and in several other towns the sums varied from 6s. to 34s. the day. Circencester is marked down "Not charitable," no sum being entered opposite the name. To other places where little cash was given or to be expected, it was marked "No go;" and several fourpenny beds were noted down as "small and uncomfortable."

A case illustrative of the *Tendencies of the Game Laws* came before the County Court at Holbeach, Lincolnshire, on the 13th. A young fisherman, named Gee, sued a Mr. Elliff, an opulent farmer, residing in Holbeach Marsh, for 50l., as compensation for injuries sustained from being purposely shot by the defendant. On the 7th of December, the plaintiff went upon some land belonging to a Mr. Woolley, and killed a hare. He was about going away from the spot, when he saw the defendant (Mr. Elliff) in an adjoining field. Defendant followed him, and on nearing him, he pointed a double-barrelled gun close to Gee's head, and vowed he would mark him. He kept walking up with the plaintiff, when he suddenly lingered behind, and the plaintiff distinctly heard a percussion-cap explode, and the contents of one of the barrels lodged in the ground. The plaintiff then addressed Elliff, and said, "Surely you don't mean to shoot me in this lonely place?" He replied, "I do mean to shoot you." After accompanying him about a quarter of a mile, he stopped, and having taken a deliberate aim, fired, and the shot of the second barrel struck him in the right hand and arm, inflicting serious wounds. The defendant then exclaimed, "Now I can take you; I have marked you, so I shall know you again, and I will go back and look for the hare." The plaintiff then contrived to crawl on to Holbeach, enduring the most excruciating agony, when he was taken into custody for trespassing in pursuit of game, and was committed to Spalding gaol for one month. Mr. Wilkinson, a surgeon, attended the wounded man in prison. There were from thirty to forty shot wounds on his right arm and hand; and great fears were entertained of lock-jaw setting in. The injuries he had sustained had entirely prevented him doing any work since. The Rev. Mr. Morton, a magistrate, before whom the case was first brought, stated that he asked defendant why he committed so rash an act as to shoot Gee, when he replied that he had merely done so to "mark him." The judge (Mr. J. D. Burnaby) said, the act of the defendant in firing at Gee was wholly unjustifiable. In calculating damages he did not consider the loss of time for the month's imprisonment, because plaintiff had rendered himself liable to that by trespassing in pursuit of game, but considered the acute pain endured in gaol, and the probable loss of time to come; and he gave a verdict for plaintiff for 38l. and costs.

An action, at the instance of the *Crown against the London Dock Company*, was decided in the Court of Exchequer on the 18th, after a trial of eleven days' duration. There were many charges of alleged evasion of duties, and fraudulent abstraction of goods to the amount of many thousand pounds. The principal charge was for having attempted to defraud the revenue of duties on 250 cwt. of sugar and 8000lbs. of cocoa. The verdict of the jury, virtually negating the charges,

was as follows: "We find for the Crown as regarding the two boxes of Havannah sugar, and for the Dock Company as regarding the remainder; also that there was no intention to evade the duty." The verdict was accompanied with a strong recommendation to the Dock Company "to be stricter with regard to their subordinate officers, as many irregularities had occurred at the docks."

The notorious *Captain Routledge*, who was committed to prison on the charge of *Swindling Bill-discounting Transactions*, (see "Household Narrative" for January, page 8), has died in gaol.

Mulharey and O'Shea, Irishmen, have been committed for trial by the Marlborough Street magistrate, for having in their possession a steel mould for making *Spurious Half-crowns*. They ordered the mould of Mr. Sounes, a die-engraver of Rupert Street, and also directed him to engrave copies of notes of the Bank of Ireland. Mr. Sounes informed the police, and acted in concert with them; and thus the culprits were captured as they carried away the mould.

An action against the printer of the *Times* for a *Libel* was tried before Lord Campbell, at the Guildhall, on the 19th. The escape of Hackett, the burglar, from the Model Prison, near Holloway, will be recollected. Immediately after that occurrence, the daily newspapers contained a biographical note of Hackett, describing his numerous feats in escaping from prison: one of these feats had been an escape from the lock-up of the Marlborough Street police-court, and it was in the description of this that the libellous passage occurred, as follows:—"The authorities instituted an inquiry, and it turned out that a turnkey had received a large sum of money to effect his (Hackett's) liberation; and he was discharged." Wilks is the dismissed turnkey. He now sought damages, both on account of the general defamation, and on account of a specific refusal of employment which he pretended had been caused by the words just quoted. For the defence it was proved, that the Government authorities did inquire into the conduct of Wilks in relation to the escape, and did dismiss him three days afterwards; but it was not proved that Wilks received the money of corruption. It was also proved that the refusal of employment, alleged as special damage, occurred after the dismissal, and before the appearance of the article in the *Times*. Lord Campbell directed the jury, that as the truth of the libel was not established, the verdict must be for the plaintiff; but the damages might be moderate, for the discreditable attempt to prove special injury had failed. The jury gave the plaintiff a verdict for one farthing damages.

Mr. Francis Edmund Knowles, late Commissary-General, committed *suicide* during the night of Sunday the 16th, at the house of a relative in Grosvenor-square. He was found dead in his bed on Monday morning, having swallowed a large quantity of prussic acid. Mr. Knowles had for some time suffered from low spirits, and imagined he had an organic disease: he had been advised to resign his office in consequence of his state of health. He had lately lost a daughter, who was burned to death; five or six years ago a son died in Sierra Leone; another son had recently gone there: these things preyed much on his mind. His despondency had been particularly noted of late. Mr. Knowles's surgeon stated to the coroner's jury that his patient had no organic affection. The verdict was, "That the deceased died from hydrocyanic acid, taken by himself while in a state of insanity."

At Lancaster Assizes, on the 19th, Samuel Donaldson, formerly actuary of the Ulverstone Savings Bank, was tried for *appropriating to his own use the money of the depositors*. There were two charges; one of having by false pretences obtained large sums from the Lancaster Banking Company, and the other of having got money from the cashier of the savings bank on the false pretence that depositors in the Ambleside branch bank wished to withdraw their deposits. It appeared that Donaldson, by means of false statements and fictitious accounts, had been defrauding the savings bank from 1817 to 1849. He was authorised to draw from the Lancaster Bank the money required to make repayments to depositors each week; and as he obtained this money without stating to the bank for what purpose he wanted it, Mr.

Justice Cresswell held that the first charge was at an end—there was no false pretence. The jury, on the second charge, found the prisoner guilty, but with a strong recommendation to mercy, on account of the gross negligence with which the accounts of the bank had been kept.

An action at the instance of Lieut. Weaver against *The Daily News*, for an alleged *Libel*, tried at the Court of Queen's Bench on the 24th, involved the question of the liability of newspapers for the contents of their police reports. The plaintiff had appeared before one of the police courts, and complained of the report of the case published in that paper, as being *libellous*. The defendants substantiated the correctness of the report. In his charge to the jury, Lord Campbell laid down the law of the case as follows:—"If the publication complained of be a fair account of proceedings at a police court, then I am of opinion that in point of law the defendant is entitled to your verdict. But if it be a garbled account—if anything be omitted that ought to have been stated, or much more, if anything be introduced that did not take place—then it is libellous, and the law will punish it." The jury found a verdict for the plaintiff, damages one farthing, which, Lord Campbell stated, would not give the plaintiff his costs.

Ellen Fennell, a young woman with a child in her arms, was charged, at Clerkenwell Police Court, on the 24th, by a police officer, with *Selling Greens on the Pavement*, under the following circumstances:—On Sunday morning last, that officer saw the prisoner in Whitcross-street, St. Luke's, carrying out some greens on the foot pavement and offering them for sale. For this, which was all her offence, he took her into custody and brought her before the magistrate. The magistrate dismissed the complaint, saying that there was no law to prevent persons selling fruit or greens in the street, or to authorise the police taking them into custody for doing so.

NARRATIVE OF ACCIDENT AND DISASTER.

Two British vessels have been *Lost* on the coast of South America, and part of one of the crews *Murdered by Savages*. They were the *Glocester* and *Prince Albert*, both of London. The *Glocester* sailed for Batavia about two years ago, and information having been received that she was seized at San Francisco for debts alleged to have been incurred by the master, the *Prince Albert* was sent out in order to recover the seized vessel. Nothing further was heard of the ships until tidings were received that both had been lost. The *Glocester* was overtaken by a storm near San Francisco, was driven ashore, and became a total wreck. The *Prince Albert* arrived in Magellan's Straits on the 2nd of October, and was driven ashore by a violent gale. Some of the crew having left her to procure fresh water, during their absence the wreck was surrounded by the natives (Patagonians), who made an attack upon the captain and crew. The captain was knocked down, and a portion of the assailants stood over him with long knives in their hands, while another party ransacked the ship. Two of the crew were murdered, and an apprentice was stretched bleeding upon the deck. The rest of the crew were secured by the natives, who presently became like maniacs from drinking the spirits on board. The captain with the surviving seamen got clear of the ship, leaving the wounded apprentice and the mate on board prisoners. After six days' suffering, during which time they subsisted entirely upon raw shellfish and water, they succeeded in reaching Sandy Point, about 150 miles from the wreck. Here they procured the assistance of an American steamer, the commander of which proceeded to the wreck, in the hope of rescuing the two men left in her. The natives still held possession of the *Prince Albert*, perceiving which the steamer opened its fire upon them, and compelled the savages to abandon their prize. The mate and the apprentice were both alive, the latter fast sinking, however, from the effects of his wounds. The captain of the American vessel returned to Sandy Point, and subse-

quently conveyed the crew to Valparaiso. After the departure of the steamer the natives set fire to the wreck.

Mr. Richard Shuttleworth Streatfield, of the Rocks, Uckfield, near Lewes, was *Killed* by his fowling-piece going off accidentally on the 29th of January. He had been shooting during the day over his estate, the Rocks, along with the Earl of Sheffield, Sir Thomas Marryon Wilson, and Sir Henry Shiffner. On their return home, and while Mr. Streatfield was emptying his pockets of game, his gun fell over his shoulder backwards to the ground, on reaching which it went off, and the contents entered his heel. Medical aid was immediately procured, and the case at first presented no dangerous symptoms, but lock-jaw supervened, and he expired a few days afterwards. Mr. Streatfield was the possessor of extensive estates in Sussex. He was about 50 years of age, and last year was High Sheriff of the county.

On the 3rd inst., a *Serious Accident* happened to Captain Sir Everard Home, and several officers and men of the *Calliope*, in Devonport harbour. The vessel was being taken out of harbour into the sound, when the capstan not being properly attended to, she gained way on the men, and on their walking back to give each hawser an equal strain the capstan "ran away," carrying every one before it. The captain was most seriously hurt in the head, and also in one of his legs. One of the assistant surgeons had his leg or thigh broken, and a quartermaster was dangerously injured. Six or eight other men were more or less severely hurt. The ship was again placed at her moorings in Hamoaze.

A fatal *Railway Accident* occurred between Rugby and Leicester on the 16th, by the bursting of one of the tubes of the engine. The driver, named Wilkinson, in endeavouring to escape, fell between the tender and the next carriage, and was crushed to death. He has left a widow and six children, but, fortunately for them, had insured his life for 500*l.* in the Railway Insurance Company's office.

Binstead, the seat of Lord Downes, near Ryde, in the Isle of Wight, was totally *Consumed by Fire* on the 17th. His lordship and family were crossing from Portsmouth, and saw the conflagration from the deck of the steamer: they were going to Binstead for a short time, the house having been prepared for their reception.

A *Fire*, involving the loss of property to the value of many thousand pounds sterling, took place on the morning of the 18th, at three o'clock, on the premises occupied by Messrs. E. Wigan, White, and Company, hop factors, of Duke-street and Tooley-street, Southwark. Their warehouse was totally destroyed, and a number of adjoining buildings very seriously damaged by fire and water. Messrs. Wigan were insured to the amount of 50,000*l.* In a long room on the ground floor, which escaped uninjured, were deposited 60,000*l.* worth of bills, and other securities.—Two more destructive fires have since occurred: one on the morning of the 20th, in Red Lion-street, Clerkenwell, on the premises of a japanner, where much damage was done; and the other on the same night, at some warehouses in Eastcheap, occupied by a cheese-factor and a spice-merchant, where the quantity of property consumed will amount, it is stated, to several thousand pounds' worth.

On the 20th, as the parliamentary train from London to Manchester came near Alderley, an accident occurred, by which the engineer was *Killed*, and many of the passengers were more or less injured. Five of the carriages were dashed to pieces. An inquiry is now being entered upon as to the origin of this calamity.

SOCIAL, SANITARY, AND MUNICIPAL PROGRESS.

The Quarterly Return of Births, Marriages, and Deaths, by the Registrar-General, comprises the Births and Deaths during the quarter ending Dec. 31; and the Marriages are those of the quarter ending Sept. 30, 1850. In their general character the returns are favourable; while fewer lives have been lost by epidemic diseases, the marriages and births have increased.

The *Marriages* were 37,496, or more by 10,000 than

were registered in the summer quarter of 1842; and 2400 more than have been returned in the summer quarter of any previous years. Except in the eastern and south-eastern counties, the increase of marriages has been general in all the great divisions of the country. In London the increase has been considerable; in Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire, Northamptonshire, and Bedfordshire, it has probably kept pace with the population; in Wiltshire, Dorsetshire, and Cornwall, in Gloucestershire, Shropshire, and Staffordshire, the increase has been still more marked; in Leicestershire, Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire, Cheshire, Lancashire, and the West Riding of Yorkshire, however, the greater part of the excess has arisen. Northumberland, Cumberland, and South Wales exhibit nearly the same increase as the Midland Counties. Among the counties in which the marriages have decreased, or have not sensibly increased, may be named—Kent, Hampshire, Suffolk, Norfolk, Devonshire, Lincolnshire, the East and North Ridings of York, Westmorland, and North Wales. The marriages at Brighton increased from 133 in the summer of 1847, and 113 in 1848, to 177; at Cheltenham, from 90 to 105; at Clifton, from 88 to 115. At Wolstanton, Burslem, and Stoke-upon-Trent, among the Potteries, the multiplication of marriages is remarkable. In the iron districts of Dudley, Walsall, Birmingham, and Merthyr Tydfil, the advance was slow or inconsiderable. At Coventry, as well as Spitalfields, Whitechapel, the seats of the silk trade, the marriages increased rapidly, as they did also at Leicester, Nottingham, and Derby, at Stockport, and Macclesfield. At Manchester, the marriages rose from 1097 to 1442; at Preston from 159 to 281; Halifax, from 215 to 313; Leeds, from 418 and 359 to 488; Newcastle-on-Tyne, from 293 to 315; Carlisle, from 39 to 53; Merthyr Tydfil, from 160 to 213.

In the purely agricultural counties, marriage then went on slowly, but steadily—in all the iron and coal fields at but a slightly increasing rate; while in all the counties peopled by the workers in lace, silk, wool, and cotton, the number of marriages—of new families established—has increased at a rate of which there are few examples in the returns of the last 100 years; and the general result is an aggregate increase in the marriages of the whole country during the summer quarter of the year 1850.

The *Births* in the quarter following, which ended on December 31, 1850, were also the greatest number ever registered in the autumn quarters of any previous year. 146,268 children were born in the three months. The births are in general most numerous in the spring quarter, and were so in the spring of 1850. They have since greatly exceeded the numbers registered in previous years in all the divisions of the kingdom, whether agricultural or manufacturing, in counties ravaged by cholera, and in counties left unscathed by that plague.

In regard to the *Increase of Population*, the excess of births registered over deaths in the quarter is 54,245. The usual excess is 40,000 more births than deaths; the excess in the last quarter of 1845 was 50,000; in 1847, when influenza was epidemic, only 24,000; in 1849, when the cholera epidemic was rapidly declining, 38,000.

In the last quarter of the year 1850, 56,971 *Emigrants* left the ports of the United Kingdom at which there are government emigration offices; 3836 departed from Irish ports; 1903 from Glasgow and Greenock; and 51,232 from three English ports—namely, 1702 from Plymouth, 4232 from London, and 45,248 from Liverpool. During the whole of the year 1850 the births were 593,567, the deaths, 369,679; and consequently the excess of births over deaths was 223,888 in England. The same year 280,843 emigrants sailed from the shores of the United Kingdom; 214,606 (many of them of Irish birth) from England; 15,154 from Scotland; and 51,083 from Ireland. The number of births and deaths in Scotland and Ireland is unknown; and the census alone can disclose at what precise rate the population increases; but we know that the new births more than replace the vast armies of peaceful emigrants that every year assemble without much noise, and led, apparently by the same kind of divine instinct that directs other migrations, leave their native land to seek homes in regions prepared for them all over the world.

With respect to *Public Health*, the Registrar-General states, that its comparatively favourable condition is evident from the reduced mortality. 92,023 deaths were registered; and allowing for the probable increase of population, the rate of mortality is lower than it has been in any of the last quarters of the years 1839-50, except 1845. The comparatively good health of several districts is ascribed by the registrars to the employment and the improved condition of the people. Hull was the only town in which any appearance of epidemic cholera was observed. In that district and Sculcoates, so fatally visited by cholera last year, several persons died of cholera in the quarter. At present this district may be considered healthy. After the great epidemic of cholera in 1832 a second outbreak followed in 1833, and was fatal in towns that had before been spared. It is a subject of congratulation, and is perhaps ascribable to the better circumstances of the people, and to some of the sanitary measures in progress, that the country escaped a second visitation in 1850. The mortality in the autumn quarter was at the rate of 2323 per cent. per annum in 117 town districts; and 1824 per cent. per annum in 506 districts, comprising small towns and country parishes. The towns, to every four deaths from what may be called natural causes, lost, in a favourable season, one life by the poisons generated in crowded, dirty houses, in the churchyards, in slaughter-houses, in undrained streets, and sewers.

Nearly *Two hundred Model Life-boats* have been forwarded to the Admiralty from all parts of the country, including Ireland, to compete for the prize of 100 guineas liberally offered by Rear-Admiral the Duke of Northumberland for the best model life-boat, and an additional 100 guineas for a life-boat that should be built according to the prize model. It appears that the Duke of Northumberland is in correspondence with the Royal National Shipwreck Institution, Great Winchester-street, and has promised to communicate the result of his decision to that society. It is stated that the above Institution has expended nearly 6000*l.* on life-boats at different periods, and is always endeavouring to increase the number of its life-boat establishments on various parts of the coasts of the United Kingdom.

The following arrangements for the *Great Exhibition* have been determined on. Season tickets will be issued, not transferable, the price of which will be for a gentleman, 3*l.* 3*s.*, and for a lady, 2*l.* 2*s.* The Commissioners reserve to themselves the power of raising the price of the season tickets, after the first issue is exhausted, should circumstances render such a course advisable. On Thursday, the 1st of May, being the first day of the Exhibition, season tickets only will be available, and no money will be received at the doors. On the second and third days, Friday and Saturday, the price will be upon each day, for one admission only, 1*l.* On Monday, the 5th of May, and the fourth day of the Exhibition, the admission will be reduced to 5*s.*, and the same price continued for the succeeding seventeen days. On and after Monday, the 26th of May, or the twenty-second day of the Exhibition, the charges for admission will be on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays, in each week, 1*s.*; on Fridays, 2*s.* 6*d.*, and upon Saturdays, 5*s.* To prevent confusion, no change will be given at the doors; but there will be an office close by the entrance at which money may be exchanged. The Exhibition will be open daily, Sundays excepted. Should experience render any alteration in these arrangements necessary, the Commissioners reserve to themselves the power of making such modifications as may appear desirable, of which due notice will be given to the public.

At the last meeting of the *Chancery Reform Association*, many cases were brought forward of injustice and injury, amounting to ruin, through the delays and denials of the law. Mr. S. Hicks, of Bath, stated by letter, that his father, Mr. Charles Hicks, an eminent surgeon, left a fortune of 200,000*l.*, besides landed property: it is now in Chancery, and all that remains between the writer of the letter and his paternal fortune is the report of the Master, now three years over-due. Mr. I. Houghton, a great land-agent and farmer of Berkshire, mentioned the case of a man who has

70,000*l.* in Chancery, and who, at the age of ninety, is a pauper. Other speakers gave instances of a similar description.

Mr. Henry Beaufoy, of Lambeth, has made an additional *Gift of one thousand guineas to the City of London School*, for prizes to be distributed among the pupils. This is the fifth gift of equal amount by Mr. Beaufoy, who has besides lately spent 10,000*l.* in building Ragged Schools in Lambeth. The birthday of Mr. Beaufoy is that of William Shakspeare, and the terms of the deed regulating the distribution of the prizes declare that they are to commemorate the birth and genius of Shakspeare, and especially to encourage among the pupils a taste for the study of his works.

By *Returns from the Poor-law Board*, presented to the House of Commons, it appears that there was spent for the relief of the poor in England and Wales in the six summer months ending last Michaelmas, nearly 200,000*l.* less than in the same period of 1849; and that on the 1st January last there were relieved 71,183 fewer paupers than on the 1st January, 1850. The amelioration was not confined to the manufacturing counties; the reduction of paupers was 6 per cent. in Bedfordshire, 4 per cent. in Berkshire, 8 per cent. in Devonshire, 4½ per cent. in Dorsetshire, 10 per cent. in Kent and the East Riding of Yorkshire. The greatest decrease was in Warwickshire—22 per cent.

During the half-year ending 30th June, 1850, 31,766,503 passengers were carried on the *Railways of the United Kingdom*. Within the same period, 90 persons were killed—10 passengers, 54 railway servants, 26 trespassers; 3 persons committed suicide; 68 received hurts not of a fatal nature. The larger proportion of the killed are set down as having suffered "owing to their own misconduct or want of caution."

An association has been formed for *Promoting the Repeal of the Taxes on Knowledge*. This was done at a meeting of gentlemen desirous to support the freedom of the press, among whom were Messrs. J. Hume, Cobden, Bright, Milner Gibson, Scholefield, and Ewart, held at the Exchequer Hotel, New Palace Yard. The chair was taken by Mr. Milner Gibson, and the following resolution was passed unanimously. Moved by Mr. Cobden, seconded by Mr. Scholefield:—"That whereas heavy taxes are laid on paper, foreign books, advertisements, and newspapers; and whereas all taxes which impede the diffusion of knowledge and obstruct the progress of education are highly injurious to the public interest, and are most impolitic sources of revenue; and whereas the penny stamp, in particular, almost prohibits newspapers to working men, the persons now present, desirous of liberating the press from all taxation and from all control, except that of a court of law, form themselves into a society to be called 'An Association for promoting the Repeal of the Taxes on Knowledge.'" The remaining resolutions referred to the appointment of the officers and committee of the association.

The commission for inquiring into the administration of affairs of the *University of Dublin* has been completed, and consists of the following members:—Dr. Whateley, Archbishop of Dublin; Dr. Wilson, Bishop of Cork; the Earl of Rosse; Lord Chief Justice Blackburne; Dr. Longfield, one of the Commissioners of the Exchequer Court; and Mr. Cooper, of Mark-tree Castle (well known for his astronomical researches), formerly representative for the county of Sligo. The inquiries will commence in the course of the ensuing month.

PERSONAL NARRATIVE.

THE Queen, Prince Albert, and the Royal Family left Windsor for Buckingham Palace on the 12th, for the season.

A Chapter of the Order of the Garter was held at Buckingham Palace on the 19th, when the Marquis of Normanby was elected a *Knight of the Order*, and received the investiture from her Majesty, with the usual ceremonies.

Prince Albert has transmitted through Col. Phipps, a cheque for 25*l.* as a donation to the funds of the "Jerusalem Literary Society." It is stated to be in

contemplation, as soon as a sufficient number of subscribers be enrolled, to publish a journal of scientific research, the pages of which to be open to contributions on all subjects relating to the Holy Land.

The Right Hon. Sir John Cam Hobhouse, Bart., is created a *Peer*, by the title of Baron Broughton de Gyfford, in the county of Wilts.

The Queen has nominated the Duke of Cambridge to be *Grand Master of the Order of St. Michael and St. George*, in room of the late Duke his father.

Lieut.-Col. F. Abbott, C.B., lately of the Bengal Engineers, has been appointed *Lieutenant-Governor* of the East India Company's Seminary at Addiscombe. Lieut.-Col. Abbott had served many years in India, and was particularly mentioned for his services in the Sutlej campaign of 1845-6.

Mr. David Robert Ross, is appointed *Lieutenant-Governor* of the island of Tobago.

The following official appointments have been made for the *Australian Colonies*:—Sir Charles Augustus Fitzroy is re-appointed Captain-General and Governor-in-Chief of New South Wales, Captain-General and Governor-in-Chief of Van Diemen's Land, Victoria, and South Australia, and Governor-General of all the colonies of Australia, including the colony of Western Australia.—Sir William Thomas Denison is re-appointed Lieutenant-Governor of Van Diemen's Land; Sir Henry Edward Fox Young, Lieutenant-Governor of South Australia; Charles Joseph La Trobe, Esq., Lieutenant-Governor of the (new) colony of Victoria.

The following *Diplomatic Appointments* are announced:—The Earl of Westmoreland, recently her Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary at Berlin, is appointed to the same functions at Vienna. Rear-Admiral Sir Edmund Lyons, Minister Plenipotentiary to the Swiss Confederation, is appointed Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary at the Court of Stockholm. Mr. Arthur Charles Magenis, now acting Minister Plenipotentiary at Vienna, is appointed Minister Plenipotentiary to the Swiss Confederation. The Hon. Henry George Howard, Secretary of Legation at the Court of Lisbon, is transferred to the Court of Vienna. The Queen has appointed Charles Sturt, Esq., to be Colonial Secretary; Boyle Travers Finniss, Esq., to be Colonial Treasurer and Registrar-General; and George Frederick Dashwood, Esq., Lieutenant R.N., to be Commissioner of Police and Police Magistrate for the colony of South Australia. And her Majesty has also appointed Richard F. Newland, Esq., to be Stipendiary Magistrate at the Port of Adelaide, in the same colony.

Obituary of Notable Persons.

LIEUT.-COL. NEVETT, who only left England in September last to take the command of the Royal Artillery at Hong Kong, died on the 21st of December, shortly after his arrival at that unhealthy station. He had been nearly forty-one years in the service.

VISCOUNT FREDERIC ADOLPHUS DE GARDINVILLE, of Athies, mousquetaire gris in the service of Louis XV., and Knight of the Order of St. Louis, has just died, aged 113, at his country house, near Homburg. This officer was born on the 28th of January, 1738, and had retired to Homburg after the dissolution of the army of Condé.

SPONTINI, the celebrated composer, author of *La Vestale* and *Fernand Cortez*, died on the 24th ult., at Majolati, near Ancona, where he had gone to pass the winter, in the hope of re-establishing his health. He was in the seventy-second year of his age.

THE COUNTESS BROOKE and WARWICK died on the 30th ult., at the town residence of the Earl of Warwick, in Carlton Gardens, after a long and painful illness, in her sixty-fifth year.

SIR FRANCIS LAWLEY, BART., died on the 30th ult., at his seat in Warwickshire, in his sixty-ninth year. The baronetcy passes to his brother, Lord Wenlock, who will also inherit his large landed property.

THE HON. CAPTAIN HENRY HOWARD died on the 29th ult., at Beauchamp, in Gloucestershire, aged forty-three. He was son of the Earl of Suffolk. He formerly represented Crikelaide in Parliament, on liberal principles.

THE REV. DR. PVE SMITH died at Guildford on the 7th inst. JOHN JAMES ADEBON, the celebrated naturalist, died in New York on the 27th of January, at the age of seventy-six.

MARY WOOLSTONCRAFT, the daughter of Godwin, widow of Percy Bysshe Shelley, and mother of the present Sir Percy Bysshe Shelley, Bart., died on the 1st inst., at her residence in Chester-square, at the age of fifty-three.

MRS. XAVERIA WISEMAN, mother of Cardinal Wiseman, died on the 7th inst., at the house of her daughter, the Countess of Gabrieli, at Fano, in Italy, after a short illness.

NICHOLAS VANSITTART, BARON BEXLEY, died on the 8th, at his seat in Kent, in the eighty-fifth year of his age. He was son of Henry Vansittart, Governor of Bengal; he graduated at Christchurch College, Oxford, and adopted the bar as his profession. In 1801 he went as Minister Plenipotentiary to Denmark. Entering the Irish and Home departments of public service, he was for several years Chancellor of the Exchequer; and in 1823 he gained his Peerage. He married, but has died childless, and the title is extinct.

FLORINDA, DOWAGER VISCOUNTESS CASTLEMAINE, died on the 9th, at Moydrum Castle, near Athlone, at the age of eighty-eight. She was sister to the late and aunt to the present Earl of Clancarty.

LIEUT.-COL. W. H. DAVIES died on the 11th inst, aged

seventy-five years. He entered the army in 1799. In 1806 he served with the 47th Regiment in South America. Afterwards he served in the Peninsula, and was present at the sieges of Cadiz, Tarragona, and Tarifa.

COLONEL COCK, C.B., died on the 17th inst. He belonged to the East India Company's service, Bengal Presidency, and for his services in the East was in 1838 nominated a Companion of the Bath.

MAJOR-GENERAL JAMES POWER, Commandant of the 2nd Battalion of the Royal Artillery, died at Dover on the 17th inst.

MR. GEORGE THOMSON, of Edinburgh, died on the 15th inst., at his residence in Leith Links, at the age of ninety-two. Mr. Thomson's early connection with Burns is universally known, and his collection of Scottish Songs, for which many of Burns' finest pieces were originally written, has been before the public for more than half a century. His kindness of heart and other excellent qualities will long be remembered.

COLONIES AND DEPENDENCIES.

SIR CHARLES NAPIER is at last on his way home from India, and has left, for a parting gift to the army he lately commanded, a severe lecture against a large class of its officers for habitual and even criminal laxity in regard to pecuniary obligations. The discipline and efficiency of the forces generally he states to have been seriously impaired by these moral delinquencies in their chiefs who should have set them a better example. Such a public reproach, well founded, and addressed to men who live by the reputation of honour, cannot be heard with indifference, or without a beneficial result; nor could a great soldier, himself of the highest character and courage, have left behind him in India a proof of either that will more surely redound to his ultimate good name, however much he may suffer for it in immediate popularity.

The long-aggitated question of the Clergy Reserves in Canada has at last been settled by Lord Grey's prudent and sensible resignation of them to the uncontrolled disposition of the local legislature. The principle on which he has acted in doing this is frankly stated in his despatch, and will be met by the best order of colonists with eager and grateful recognition. The question, Lord Grey remarks, is one "so exclusively affecting" the people of Canada, that its decision ought not to be withdrawn from the Provincial Legislature.

The Overland Mail from *Bombay* brings accounts from thence to the 17th, from Calcutta of the 8th January, and Hong Kong of the 30th December. Sir C. Napier had arrived at Bombay, and was to leave in the packet of the 3rd. Sir Charles Napier, before retiring from the command of the Indian army, issued a *farveel* address, dated from his head-quarters at Ferozepore on the 15th of December—a very remarkable document, which has attracted great attention both in India and at home. It denounces with great severity the habits of extravagance which have taken root among the officers, and especially their ruinous vice of getting deeply into debt. The following are some of its features:—Premising that he is not now speaking as a rich man to the poor, for he has "known poverty," and has "lived for years on less than half what every ensign in this army receives," Sir Charles proceeds to state, that he has not sought for the information on which he speaks, but has had it forced upon him by men of high rank in both the Queen's and the Company's services, who are labouring for the honour of the service. One Brigadier writes to him—"At a Court of Requests, held on the 6th inst., there were fifty-three cases, and (with the exception of four of trifling amount) all against subalterns—amount to 4875 rupees." Again, the same officer writes—"Decrees of Execution General are not unrequited, and the efficiency of the officers seriously affected by their pecuniary embarrassments." Among the causes of this demoralisation, one is, "that some young men get commissions without having had much education, or perhaps a vulgar one, which is worse."

"These officers are not aware that honesty is inseparable from the character of a thoroughbred gentleman. A vulgar man, who 'enjoys a champagne tiffin and swindles his servants,' (as a Brigadier writes to me, when speaking of these matters, and referring to an officer under his immediate command,) may be a pleasant companion to those who do not hold him in contempt as a vulgar knave, but he is not a gentleman."

Then, some young men just escaped from school think it is manly to be dishonourable.

"They meet champagne-drinking swindlers who sponge on them and lead them into expense. Thus comes debt—then bankers are at hand to advance money. Thus they become involved past redemption; and soon the habit of being constantly

in debt makes them grow callous to the proper feelings of a gentleman."

The expenses caused by the constant marching of regiments are great burdens on the officer; and Sir Charles hopes that now, in time of peace, the marching of regiments will be avoided. The extravagance of messes can and ought to be controlled by the commanding officers of regiments.

"The pay of an ensign is sufficient for his just expenditure; and the commanding-officer is, and can alone be, responsible that this rule of rigid and just economy is never infringed. What officer will go to a mess committee and tell his private misfortune, or his difficulties? Yet this is what those people (who say that the commanders of regiments ought not to interfere with the mess) want. They are over-bearing tyrants, who want to set aside the private affairs of officers, and to make those officers who cannot afford such extravagance pay for these persons' selfish enjoyments, which they want to indulge in at other men's expense. That is the real object of those who wish to prevent the interference of commanding-officers. But the rules of both Queen's and Company's services give commanding-officers the right to interfere, and the Commander-in-chief will take care to hold him responsible that the ensign has his rights."

Sir Charles concludes with these valedictory words—

"To-day I am Commander-in-chief; a week hence I shall be no more to the Armies of India than a private gentleman. But the Armies of India must ever be much and dear to me. For nine years my whole energies, such as they are, have been devoted to the honour and glory of the Company's troops. I may say that I have become as much identified with the Armies of the three Presidencies as if I had risen from their ranks. I have jealously guarded their honour, and I have fought at their head, I now leave them for ever. But in the retirement of private life, although no longer able to serve them, the destinies of the Indian Armies will ever occupy my thoughts. I here take leave of them, hoping that this order will be of use, as the last which I can issue to the Armies of India."

The latest advices from *Ceylon* are to January 15th. Sir George Anderson had adjourned the Legislative Council, on the 20th December, after voting the necessary supplies: the financial statement, presented by the Colonial Secretary, showed the revenue for the first three quarters of 1850 to amount to 311,479*l.* 10*s.* 9*d.*, against 307,170*l.* 2*s.* 9*d.* for the like period of 1849; whilst the expenditure had been 291,793*l.* 3*s.* 5*d.*,

against 312,537*l.* *s.* *d.* in 1849. Sweeping reductions were talked of: amongst other changes, one of the Puisne Judges was to be dispensed with, the offices of Civil Engineer and Commissioner of Roads were to be amalgamated as of old, and several Staff appointments were abolished. The weather, which had long been adverse to the preparation and shipment of the crops, had changed, and exporters were busy.

Accounts from *Jamaica* state that cholera was fast disappearing from the colony, and the only parish now afflicted to any extent is Lucia. A serious riot had occurred in the parish of St. David during an election for a member of the House of Assembly. A hired band of ruffians was in attendance, and a fearful riot ensued. The Court-house was almost entirely demolished, the police and other persons cut and wounded, some of whom would not survive. Mr. M'Lean, the coroner of the parish, was killed; and the sheriff, Mr. Lyons, obliged to fly for his life. A detachment of troops had been sent to the district, and some of the ringleaders arrested on a charge of wilful murder.

There are advices from the *Cape of Good Hope* to the 26th of December. The excitement respecting the position of affairs on the frontier continued unabated. Sir Harry Smith was on the spot, evidently determined to make a strict investigation as to the causes originating this renewed spirit of turbulence among the Caffres. Sandilli, the chief suspected of organising the movement, had, it was said, escaped into the bush, and would not attempt to come into the presence of the governor to explain his conduct. Sir Harry Smith had entered into arrangements with the other tribes to support him, if necessary, in maintaining peace, and at the interviews he had had with them, the whole of the proceedings were considered to have terminated most satisfactorily.

The "Clergy Reserves" in *Canada* have been placed

by the Home Government at the disposition of the Colonial Legislature. This fact has been communicated in a despatch from the Colonial Office to the Earl of Elgin. The dispatch of the Earl of Elgin communicating the address of the Canadian Assembly on the subject was received in July last, after the session of the Provincial Legislature had already closed, and on the eve of the close of the Imperial session; it was therefore reserved for mature consideration by the government. Earl Grey's despatch in answer is dated the 27th of January. Its substance is as follows:—Her Majesty has been pleased to receive the address "very graciously." Lord Elgin will inform the House of Assembly, that while her Majesty's servants "greatly regret" that a subject of so much difficulty should, after an interval of some years, have again been brought under discussion, "it has appeared to them, on mature deliberation, that the desire expressed by the Assembly in this address ought to be acceded to." They will accordingly be prepared to recommend to parliament, that an act should be passed giving to the Provincial Legislature full authority to make such alterations as they may think fit in the existing arrangements with regard to the clergy reserves, provided that existing interests are respected." Great as would be the advantages of leaving undisturbed the existing arrangement devoting a portion of the public lands to the creation of a fund for the religious instruction of the inhabitants of the province, "still the question is one so exclusively affecting the people of Canada, that its decision ought not to be withdrawn from the Provincial Legislature, to which it properly belongs to regulate all matters concerning the domestic interests of the Province." It has appeared to her Majesty's government "impossible for them, consistently with the principles on which they have always held that the government of Canada ought to be conducted," to advise refusal of the prayer. They have acted on that conclusion with the less difficulty from observing that the Assembly in their address recognise the claims of present incumbents of the fund, and have not asked authority to interfere with the incomes during the lives of the parties enjoying them.

NARRATIVE OF FOREIGN EVENTS.

THE great topic of the day in Paris is the President's reduction of his establishment at the Elysée. As soon as the Assembly refused him his "dotation" he shrewdly announced that his expensive receptions were at an end; and, as we write, there are one-and-twenty of his saddle and carriage horses in the course of sale by auction at the stables in the Rue de Montaigne. This is a new way of fighting the Assembly, and seems to indicate that Louis Napoleon has new and better advisers.

The other great continental event is the steady march of Austria in the direction of extreme absolutism. Russia is helping her to swamp the German Confederation by forcing her non-German provinces into it, and wicked schemes against Switzerland and Piedmont are to be Russia's return in kind. There have been all sorts of protestings from England and France during the last month or two, but the issue remains to be seen. It will be a most important one, in its influence over the whole civilised world.

The chief article of news from *France*, during the month, has been the rejection, by the Assembly, of the President's Dotation Bill. On the 10th, M. Anthony Thouret having moved that 1,800,000*fr.* be paid to the President of the Republic as *frais de représentations*, Messrs. Clay and Lemulier proposed that this credit be paid out of the salaries of the members.—The Minister of Justice, M. Royer, stated, on the part of the government, that the Cabinet would not enter into the debate, but that it referred the Assembly to the motivation of the bill. Referring to the credit of last year, he protested that to the government this question was not one of money, but of political order.—M. Dufongerais, rising in opposition to the bill, detailed the grievances of the Assembly against the President.—M. de Montalembert had hoped that the good sense of members would have induced them to hush the schism between the Assembly and the Executive. He opposed the preferment of such a grant on principle, but he was of opinion that the demand, if once made, ought to meet with compliance.—M. Piscatory

opposed the bill. He protested that the Assembly was by no means hostile to the President, and he declared that the vote which he felt confident would be pronounced was a mere warning on the part of the legislative body.—On a division the numbers were—for the bill, 294; against it, 396. The bill was accordingly rejected by a majority of 102 votes.—In consequence of this refusal to make him a provision, the President has commenced a rigid economy in his household and personal expenses. He has discontinued his "receptions," and the sale of a number of his saddle and carriage horses has been advertised. A proposal of a national subscription for him having been made by some of his friends, he has decidedly declined all such assistance.

Accounts from *Naples* of the 3rd bring the termination of the trial of the members of the *Unità Italiana*, which has been going on for some months. Three have been condemned to death, namely, MM. Faucitano, Settembrini, and Agresti; M. Risco Pivotti and the

Abbé Barilla have been condemned to the galleys for life; M. Carlo Poërio, formerly a member of the Cabinet, to 24 years' imprisonment, and the others to shorter terms of imprisonment. All the prisoners are deputies, or in the higher ranks of society. The King has respited the sentences of those condemned to death, and commuted their punishment to imprisonment in the galleys for life.

A letter from Rome, dated the 31st of January, gives an account of an *Exploit of Banditti*, which looks more like romance than reality, though its truth seems authenticated. "On the 25th of this month, the theatrical corps of Forlini-Popoli was playing the 'Death of Cæsar.' Forlini-Popoli is a small town of about 4000 inhabitants, enclosed by a high wall, entered by two gates, and scarcely three miles from the town of Forlì, of which it is a kind of suburb. By eight in the evening, the hour when the theatres open in Italy, all movement has disappeared from the streets, windows are closed, and the inhabitants have retired to their homes, the coffeehouses, or theatres. This absence of activity in the streets, which every one remarks at Rome, is still more complete in small towns. It may then be understood how, at Forlini-Popoli, and particularly on an evening when the theatre was open, the streets should be so deserted as to make possible the occurrence now to be related. The first act of the piece had terminated, and the curtain had just fallen, when suddenly it rose and disclosed—instead of the actors, who had disappeared—ten brigands of the band *Del Passatore*, who, armed with muskets and carbines, levelled them so as to command the entire range of the pit and boxes. At the same moment, another party, consisting of thirty brigands, made their appearance on the floor of the house, the issues of which were guarded, and, armed with sabres and pistols, menaced the spectators. A moment of stupor, during which no one dared move, elapsed, when the chief of the brigands advanced to the foot-lights, and, exhibiting the keys of the two gates of the town, said, 'Gentlemen, you see by these that you are entirely in our power: any resistance on your part would lead to disasters which I should be the first to deplore, but which it depends on you to avert. Listen, then, to what I have to say. I am about to call out the names of several among you: as I pronounce a name, let him who bears it step forth from his box and repair to his house, in company with one or two of my friends who will assist him to bring hither all his hoards, and that without defrauding us of a porpetto.'" This said, the orator displayed a paper, and commenced reading the fatal roll. Submission was inevitable. A dozen carbiners formed the sole police of Forlini-Popoli. Six of these were in the theatre, and had been gagged by the brigands. The six others, surprised in their guard-house, had ventured a vain resistance. The Burgomaster was the first victim. Some time was, of course, required for this operation, which did not terminate before a quarter to twelve. It was, probably, to shorten the agony of the pit and boxes that two brigands went from

spectator to spectator, collecting hatfuls of watches, purses, chains, rings, and even umbrellas. When the harvest was gathered, and the booty had been heaped up on the stage, the brigands allowed the curtain to fall, and quietly withdrew, carrying all with them. The money thus obtained amounted to 7000 Roman piastres, or about 40,000 francs, and the bijoux, objects of art, &c., to double that sum. The next day an Austrian detachment set out in pursuit of the band, which, probably, had dispersed by that time in the mountains, or passed the Tuscan frontier. Their number is supposed to have been about three or four hundred. It is probable that they were in league with some of the inhabitants. However this may be, private houses and public treasuries all have been plundered, with the exception of the Monte de Piète, the fastening of which resisted all the attempts made to break it."

In Germany, congresses and conferences continue among the diplomatists of the various powers, but little is known of their result.

Both France and England have protested against the demand of Austria for the admission of the whole of her possessions into the Germanic Confederation. The two Powers have, it is said, communicated notes to the Cabinet of St. Petersburg, with a view to bring it over to their opinion.

Baron Manteuffel suddenly left *Dresden* on the 18th, the day on which the sitting of the conferences was resumed, for Berlin, where he had an immediate audience of the King, and intended to return on the 19th to *Dresden*.

M. Hassenpflug, the Hessian minister, is in the greatest perplexity from want of money. A project for a loan has been abandoned, as none of the Frankfort bankers would negotiate it.

The Diet of the kingdom of *Hanover* was opened on the 12th inst., with a message from the King, which is chiefly occupied with the part taken by *Hanover* in the late events in Germany.

The intelligence from *New York*, which is up to the 13th inst., is unimportant.—In the Senate the California Land Title Bill was ordered to be engrossed. General Cass has been re-elected to the Senate by the Legislature of Michigan. In the House of Representatives Mr. Gilbert gave notice of a bill to establish a Branch Mint in California.—The Naval Committee of the Senate had put their veto upon the extension of any new steam lines of communication across the Atlantic under the patronage of Government, for the present session.

By the accounts from California, it appears that the aggregate amount of shipments of gold-dust, together with the quantity in private hands, shows that the yield of the mines for 1850 was not less than between nine and ten millions sterling.

NARRATIVE OF LITERATURE AND ART.

THE last month will be memorable, in the annals of Art, as that in which the first artist of the stage, the last of that generation of great actors which includes the names of Siddons, Kemble, Kean, Young, and Miss O'Neill, bade adieu to the scene of his triumphs. It was an occasion never likely to pass from the remembrance of those who witnessed or took part in it. And now Mr. Macready will live hereafter in dramatic history not simply as the most complete intellectual actor of his time, but as the man who singly supported the higher drama of England at a time when all other support seemed to have passed from it. What we agree to call our national stage was never at so low or hopeless an ebb as when he opened Covent Garden fifteen years ago; but yet, with scant sympathy at first, he steadily, bravely, and completely worked out his design of applying to the pure text of our noblest dramas the ablest acting and the most perfect accessories. Has any playgoer of that day forgotten the extraordinary excitement that at last attended every announcement of a new Shaksperian revival? And does any one suppose that that civilising influence passed wholly away with Mr. Macready's departure from Drury Lane, who has since visited Mr. Phelps's well conducted theatre, and seen the quiet, intelligent, apprehensive enjoyment of its crowded pit of young men, tradesmen, artisans and their wives, not a few of them comparing their printed copy of the Shaksperian

play with the correct and intelligent performance in course of presentation before them? It is not in the nature of such exertions as Mr. Macready's to fail, and such a theatre as that of Sadler's Wells is but one of the many fruits they are sure to bear. Generations of unborn playgoers will yet profit by them; and, as time moves on, and statesmen are compelled to inquire practically into educational agencies now lightly laughed at as Utopian, it may even come to be discovered that a well conducted theatre, set apart for the presentation of the masterpieces of English dramatic genius, might prove a help to popular instruction of the most important kind.

Doctor Johnson had two modes of treating booksellers. On a particular occasion he knocked one down with one of his own folios. On another, he proclaimed them, without stint, generous, liberal minded men, and the true patrons of literature. But his ordinary and settled opinion may be said to have lain between these two extremes, and to be best expressed by what he said to his friend Dr. Wetherell: "I suppose, with all our scholastic ignorance of mankind, we are still too knowing to expect that the booksellers will erect themselves into patrons, and buy and sell under the influence of a distinguished zeal for the promotion of learning." We are reminded of these judgments of biblioplist humanity by a most surprising banquet given the other day to M. Lamartine, by what our English papers call "the editors," but more properly should have called the publishers, of his works. On this occasion M. Lamartine returned thanks to his worthy paymasters in a style of the most rapturous enthusiasm. He protested that it was not only the glory of their name that poets and historians owed to the profession of booksellers, but that they owed them also, in modern times, that independence of sentiment, that dignity of character, and that attitude of pride before power, which so well became those devoted to literary pursuits—of which attitude M. Lamartine showed certainly a very odd forgetfulness in these exaggerated epithets. He asserted that the greatest poets, the most splendid geniuses, the most immortal writers of ancient and remote times, had never attained to "independence of sentiment;" for that Corneille, Racine, Boileau, Lafontaine, had been compelled altogether to sacrifice their dignity for that which the mere necessities of existence enforced upon them—namely, submission to the kings, the courts, the favourites, even the moneyed men of their day. M. Lamartine seems to have forgotten, unfortunately, that things change less than names; and that there was a sort of submission to the moneyed men of the day which at least the Racines and Lafontaines escaped. They never made speeches about themselves at public dinners, of which the only design was to puff the wares they had themselves just sold to the "moneyed" givers of the feasts. For, alas that we should say it! this magnificent banquet to M. Lamartine turned out to be nothing else than simply a magnificent quack advertisement for his forthcoming *Histoire de la Restauration*, just purchased by the booksellers who entertained him!

The publishers have been less active of late than is customary at this season of year, and are probably reserving their efforts for the great foreign invasion of May.

Major Edwardes's narrative of a *Year on the Punjab Frontier* might have passed, by its size, for a history of India since the days of Clive. This points to the defect of the book, in marking the showy and glaring tastes which detract somewhat from the character of its author. He talks too much of his own exploits; though it is as little to be denied that he talks well as that he acted efficiently and nobly. But one cannot conceive a Clive, a Munro, or a Wellington, signalling the outset of their career, or indeed illustrating any part of it, by such a book as this.

The *Life* of the late excellent Bishop Stanley by his son, the biographer of Arnold, is a timely publication. It is a slight but sufficient delineation of a thoroughly good, earnest, sensible, liberal Churchman; and never at any part of her history did the English Church need such records of her best and most faithful class of ministers, for example and support. Another and striking contribution to the biography of an illustrious Englishman, and sound friend to Protestantism, is the fourth series of *Southey's Commonplace Book*. It contains a curious and ample collection of ideas and studies for literary composition, from which a young writer may derive lessons, in the art to which he aspires, of the utmost value to him. It contains also anecdotes and recollections, set down with the same view; and is altogether the most remarkable public exhibition of what may be called the private workshop of a great literary man, that has ever been given to the world.

Lavengro will somewhat disappoint the great expectations raised by its announcement as Mr. Borrow's *Autobiography*. So much evident fiction is mixed up with its fact, that it will be difficult to apportion the precise interest or value due to either. Yet the genius of the writer is unmistakably impressed upon the book. The other most recent publications, best worth mention, are *An Argument for the Royal Supremacy*, much more detailed, elaborate, and ably reasoned than any other we have seen, by the Rev. Mr. Sanderson Robins; a capital translation, by Sir George Head, of that extremely curious romance of the Second Century, the *Golden Ass*, full of all sorts of foreshadowings of the later romances

of the middle ages, and even of the strictly modern novel, which Sir George publishes under the title of the *Metamorphoses of Apuleius*; a neatly written book, called the *Saxon in Ireland*, describing the sort of settler for whose energy and enterprise that country would now offer larger scope than even the best of our colonies could supply; an illustrated book of a tour chiefly in Cornwall, by the son of Mr. Collins the painter, called *Rambles beyond Railways*; another volume of the *Princesses of England*, by Mrs. Everett Green; a graceful little treatise, under the title of *Euphrator*, on sources of education which exist independent of mere book studies or black-letter researches; a book of interesting travel, by Commander Forbes, on *Dahomey and the Dahomans*; and a small treatise on *Pope's British and Foreign*, by Mr. Walter Savage Landor, eloquent as well as humorous, and full of thoughts pertinent to the day.

Mrs. Cowden Clarke, whose *Concordance of Shakespeare* shows such mastery of the letter of the poet's works, now evinces her appreciation of their spirit in a series of fictions entitled the *Youth of Shakespeare's Heroines*; of which the antecedents of Portia, Helena, and Lady Macbeth have already been issued. The whole of *Shakespeare's Plays* are also to be reproduced in the shilling volumes of the Parlour Library under the editorship of Mr. William Hazlitt. We may add that Mr. Henry Rumsey Forster has published a *Pocket Peerage and Baronetage*, which suits the pockets of the commonality in more ways than one: being portable and cheap.

Several new pieces have been produced at the theatres with success:—at the Haymarket, a farce, by Mr. Buckstone, called *Good for Nothing*; at the same house, a drama, taken from the French, by Mr. Stirling Coyne, called *Presented at Court*; at the Olympic, a melodrama, also taken from the French, by Mr. Bourcicault, called *Sixtus the Fifth*; and at Drury Lane, a spectacle called *The Prodigal*, which is Scribe and Auber's new Opera, *L'Enfant Prodigue*, stripped of its music.

The only notable musical event has been the performance, at Exeter Hall, of *David*, an Oratorio, the work of a young musician, Mr. Charles Edward Horsley. Its success has been complete.

COMMERCIAL RECORD.

BANKRUPTS.

From the Gazette of January 28.—J. HAYWARD, Oxford-street, Whitechapel, watchmaker.—R. J. JOHNSON, Woolwich, plumber.—W. WATERMAN, Sheffield, grocer.—M'DONNELL, Liverpool, victualler.—S. HAMILTON WATSON and J. KINGSTON, Rochdale, Lancashire, mercers.—W. THOMPSON, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, grocer.

January 31. J. TYARS, Paduals Corner, Essex, farmer.—A. GLASS, Queen's-road, Bayswater, baker.—A. WALKDEN, Horkstow, Lincolnshire, carrier.—R. N. JONES, Liverpool, merchant.

February 4. W. HOOD, Lawrence-lane, commission-agent.—R. TREDINNICK, Threadneedle-street, mining-agent.—A. EVE, Charlotte-street, Fitzroy-square, turner.—C. WATT, Southampton-street, Pentonville, baker.

February 7. J. SKAM, Studley-road, Clapham-road, builder.—J. S. MARSHALL, Goswell-road, boot-dealer.—A. FRIEDEBERG, Houndsditch, furrier.—J. DIXON, Bately, dyer.—J. WYATT, junior, sometimes called R. WYATT, Milverton, Somersetshire, grocer.—J. SHIRT, Frodsham, provision-dealer.

February 11. J. BARUGH, High Holborn, oil-man.—W. L. WOOD, Charles-street, Drury-lane, piano-forte-maker.—E. BLISS, Barbican, brush-maker.—R. B. COLTMAN, Regent-street, milliner.—J. MURRELLS, Colchester, barge-owner.—H. D. STEVENSON, Bishopwearmouth, merchant.

February 14. F. P. PLATT, Broad Street Buildings, merchant.—P. WOOTTON, sen., and P. WOOTTON, jun., Margate, grocers.—J. MANNING, Birmingham, draper.—E. TETLOW, Leeds, innkeeper.—H. HUNT, Hull, merchant.—T. BRIGHOUSE, Liverpool, contractor.—J. WILSON, St. Helen's, chemical-manufacturer.

February 18. J. B. and G. B. COOPER, Drury-lane, ironfounders.—J. HOLLAND and E. WARDEN, Preston, tallowchandlers.—W. NECK, jun., Torre, near Torquay.

February 21. W. C. GAZELEY, Chenies-place, Old-road, St. Pancras, builder.—W. TENNANT, Chertsey, Surrey, draper.—J. BISHOP, Piccadilly, laceman.—J. REID, King's-row, Piccadilly, corn-dealer.—G. W. WELLS, Stevenage, Hertfordshire, miller.—S. KNIGHTLY, Paul-street, Finsbury, carpenter.—The BROMLEY HILL IRON and COAL COMPANY, Forest of Dean, Gloucestershire. H. WILLIAMSON, Manchester, manufacturer.—R. BOTLE, jun., Kingston-upon-Hull, merchant.—G. WOODS, Liverpool, surgeon.

February 25. J. BURRELL, victualler, Blackmore, Essex.—J. MATTS, ironmonger, Edgeware-road.—C. F. THOMAS, shipbroker, Bristol.

BANKRUPTCIES ANNULLED.

February 4. E. ARMYTAGE, Clifton Bridge, Halifax, cotton-spinner.

February 7. BEREND and BLOOMENTHAL, Weymouth-place, New Kent-road, cigar-merchant.

February 11. G. JOHNSTONE, Newbury, publican.—E. HODGES, Swinford, surgeon.

February 14. B. HOMAN, Westbourne-terrace, Paddington, builder.

MONEY MARKET.

The close of last month, and nearly the whole of this, has been a dull time on the Stock Exchange. The small majority on D'Israeli's motion scarcely ruffled this smooth state of things. On the 14th, Consols for Money fell no more than from 96½ to 96½; but before the close of the business on that day, they rose again to their former prices. The great majority against ministers on Locke King's motion, and their actual resignation, scarcely put life into the pulse of the Money Market.—Consols, at the opening of business, just touched 95½, and then rebounded, on the 24th, to 96½; which they have since maintained.

Money was so abundant at the beginning of the month, that 2 per cent. per annum was got with difficulty for short loans on ordinary securities. On the 13th, however, cash became scarcer, and 4 per cent. was given, the day after, on Consols as security. The Bank did not alter its rate of discount.

The Foreign Share and Railway Markets have partaken of the characteristics of the Consol Market. The only event in the latter worth recording, is the unpleasant announcement of "no dividend" for the holders of Eastern Counties' shares.

STOCKS.	Highest.	Lowest.	Latest.
Three per Cent. Consols	97½	95½	96½
Three per Cent. Reduced	97½	96½	97½
Three and a quarter per Cents.	99	98½	98½
Long Annuities, Jan. 1860	73	71½	71½
Bank Stock	215½	214½	214½
India Stock	267	263	263
Exchequer Bills	61s. prm.	47s. prm.	47s. prm.
India Bonds	71s. prm.	57s. prm.	57s. prm.

FOREIGN FUNDS—LATEST PRICES.

Belgian 4½ per cent. 91½	New York (1858) 5 per cent., 94
Brazilian 5 per cent., 93	Pennsylvania 5 per cent., 86
Chilian 3 per cent., 65	Peruvian 4½ per cent., 79½
Danish 3 per cent., 77½	(Deferred) 4 p. ct., 36
Dutch 2½ pr. cent. 12 guild., 58½	Portuguese 5 per cent., 87½
French 3 per cent., 57 f. 25 c.	Russian 4½ per cent., 86½
5 94 f. 96 c.	Spanish 3 per cent., 38
Mexican, 5 per cent., 38½ ex. d.	Venezuela Bonds (Deferred) 11½

Paid.	RAILWAYS.	Highest.	Lowest.	Latest.
50	Aberdeen	13½	13	13½
100	Brighton and South Coast	98	94½	99
118	Blackwall	7½	7	7½
100	Bristol and Exeter	89	77	89
50	Caledonian	121	101	12
20	Eastern Counties	7½	6½	6½
50	Edinburgh and Glasgow	35	24½	34½
25	Great Northern	18	17½	18
100	Great Western, ex. div.	92½	87½	91½
50	Hull and Selby	104	100	104
100	Lancashire and Yorkshire	58½	55½	58½
100	London & North Western	134	128	134
100	Midland	61½	54½	61½
25	North British	94	84	94
30	South Eastern and Dover	25½	24½	26½
100	South Western	89½	87	89½
25	York, Newc., and Berwick	21	16½	20½
50	York and North Midland	24½	24½	24½

FOREIGN RAILWAYS—LATEST PRICES.

Boulogne and Amiens, 20	Paris and Rouen, 25½ ex. d.
East Indian, 12½	Paris and Strasburg, 9½
Namur and Liege, 8½	Rouen and Havre, 11
Northern of France, 15	Tours and Nantes, 5½

CORN MARKET—LONDON WEEKLY AVERAGES.

Wheat, per q., 37s. 8d.; Barley, 22s. 11d.; Oats, 16s. 2d.; Rye 24s. 8d.; Beans, 25s. 6d.; Peas, 26s. 10d.; Flour (town made), delivered, 40s. to 44s.; American barrel of 250 lbs., 22s. to 23s.

PROVISIONS—LATEST WHOLESALE PRICES.

Bacon, per cwt., Waterford, 40s. to 45s.; Belfast, 37s. to 40s.	Hams, per cwt.—York or Cumberland, 60s. to 76s.; Irish, 68s.; Westphalia, 48s. to 51s.
Beef, per 8 lbs., mid. to prime, 2s. to 3s. 4d.	Mutton, per 8 lbs., mid. to prime, 2s. 8d. to 4s.
Butter, Fresh, per lb., 10½ to 1s.; Carlow, 1st, 90s.; Waterford, 1st, 72s. to 78s.; Dutch Friesland, 98s. to 100s.; Limerick, 70s. to 78s.	Potatoes, per ton.—Kent and Essex Shaws, 55s. to 75s.; Kent and Essex Middling, 55s. to 75s.; Chats, 30s. to 36s.
Cheese, per cwt., Cheshire, 42s. to 60s.; Wiltshire, Double, 49s. to 58s.; Dutch, New Gouda, 29s.; American, 34s.	Pork, per 8 lbs., 2s. 6d. to 4s.; American, New, per barrel, 46s. to 55s.
Eggs, per 120, English, 4s. to 5s. 6d.	Veal, per 8 lbs., 3s. 2d. to 4s.

GROCERY—LATEST WHOLESALE PRICES.

Cocoa, per cwt.—Ord.—to good red Trinidad, 47s. to 56s.; Brazil, 29s. to 31s.	Sugar, per cwt.—Lumps, 49s. 6d. to 51s. 6d.; British West India, good grocery, 37s. to 43s.; Mauritius, brown, 30s. to 43s. 6d.; Brazil, do, 33s. to 44s.
Coffee, per cwt.—Good ord., Native Ceylon, 46s.; Mocha, 66s. to 80s.; Plantation, 50s. to 57s.; Bahia, 45s. to 47s.	Tea, per lb. (duty 2s. 1d.)—Ord. Congou, 11½d.; Sou-chong, com. to fine, 1s. to 2s. 8d.; ord. to fine Hyson, 1s. 2d. to 3s. 9d.; Imperial, 1s. 2d. to 2s. 8d.
Rice, per cwt.—Bengal mid. to fine white, 10s. to 12s.; Madras, 7s. 6d. to 10s.; Patna, 11s. to 18s.	

Candles, per 12 lbs., 4s. 6d. to 5s. 6d. | Coals, per ton, 13s. to 20s. 6d.

OILS.

Pale Seal, per 252 gals., 33l. 10s.	Palm, per ton, 29l. to 30l.
Sperm, 84l. to 87l.	Olive, Gallipoli, 44l.
Cod, 38s.	Linseed, 33s. 6s.

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THE
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OF CURRENT EVENTS.

1851.] FROM THE 26TH FEBRUARY TO THE 26TH MARCH. [PRICE 2d.

THE THREE KINGDOMS.

THE Whig Ministry are again in power, no stronger than when they were driven from it. The "crisis" has led to nothing, and proved nothing, but that the leading politicians of the day are more capable of the self-denial of refusing office, than of the courage and capacity of conducting it on any other than the old routine. This has been called patriotism, and adorned with a great many gracious phrases. But it is possible that history may apply other names to it, and less polite expressions.

Lord Stanley tried hard to form an administration; but found, after beating up recruits for nearly a week, that his regiment of followers was too ragged to be marched anywhere but *into* Coventry. There accordingly he took them. To use his own expressions, he found that his party comprised men of talent, but unfortunately contained hardly more than one individual of political experience, and versed in the transactions of public life. In other words, he could rely on nobody but poor Mr. Herries. Nay, in a subsequent part of his speech, he threw a doubt upon the value of even that veteran Red-taper. "There were few men, *if any*," he emphatically observed of those very men who, under his own guidance, have been hammering at the gates of Downing Street ever since 1846, "possessed of sufficient experience or habits of public business" to conduct the service of the crown. Therefore, though he had a nostrum that would have been monstrously restorative, he thought it less safe to apply it in a new mode, than that the country should continue to decline under the old hands.

While Lord Stanley was saying this in one house, in the other Lord John Russell was holding forth upon the old school-copy about the danger to good manners from evil communications. Nothing could have carried him through his political life, he said, but the fact that he was acting with men in whom he had the utmost confidence, on whose judgment he could rely, and in whose integrity he felt the most perfect faith. In other and plainer language, the house was not to expect him at this time of day to betake himself to new personal familiars, or to sanction new public combinations. It seems impossible to place any other meaning upon words applied to a crisis which had been chiefly remarkable for a government defeat brought about by men unconnected with either of the old government parties. It had never occurred to Lord John Russell that the Queen should call in anybody but Lord Stanley. It had never occurred to Lord Stanley that anybody but Lord John or Sir James should be sent for. It had never occurred to Sir James to think of leaning upon other help than Lord John's. And here were the "explanations" that made all this clear. How could confidence be felt in men who had never worn the Windsor uniform? Could their judgments be reliable to whom the Treasury Bench appealed with no tender recollections? Was it possible to feel a perfect faith in integrity never tried by the temptations of Downing Street? "Such a state of things as the present," exclaimed Lord Lansdowne, enlarging on that absence of the amount of parliamentary support needful for a proper carrying on of public affairs to which his colleagues had been obliged to succumb, "if prolonged, cannot fail to be detrimental to the honour of the crown, and profitable only to those—not the most respectable class of politicians—who in such circumstances find a consequence which does not naturally belong to them, and which they would not otherwise possess."

So the Government was restored to those, the most respectable class of politicians, who naturally belong to it, or to whom it naturally belongs; and the less respectable class were left to find their want of real consequence as best they might. Some have accordingly showed it by a little restiveness, which was immediately snubbed by their superiors. For instance, Lord Stanley is believed to have rapped Mr. Disraeli on the knuckles for having voted in the majority of one for a better administration of the Office of Woods; and Mr. Baillie suddenly found himself in so sad a scrape for having even given notice of a dangerous motion about Ceylon, that he was obliged to back out of it in most humiliating fashion. In brief, therefore, the Whig Ministry are come back expressly on sufferance, with their assailants bound over to keep the peace; and the only thing that bears marks of the fray through which they have passed, is the little bill they were "carrying" when set upon, and which, small before, is now become so infinitesimally small, that its very authors can hardly explain what it is, or what it means.

The second, third, and fourth clauses (which alone were expected to have any penal efficacy against possible attempts at Roman Catholic Ecclesiastical domination) are now removed from the bill, which consists solely of the preamble and first clause, and appears to be directed exclusively against the mere assumption of titles. Nevertheless Mr. Bethel and Mr. Bramwell aver that even the first clause will interfere with the administration of trusts bequeathed under territorial titles; while the Attorney-General protests that it will make nothing void but acts to which territorial titles are essential. But among such acts the learned Attorney-General counts the Canon law and its administration, which will thus, in his judgment, be barred by the bill; while Sir George Grey as strongly implied in *his* speech, that the mutilation of the bill would leave it perfectly innoxious in so far as regarded matters strictly ecclesiastical. Mr. Roundell Palmer protests against the measure because it invades religious liberty; and Lord Palmerston supports it as a completion of the Roman Catholic Emancipation Act. The Solicitor-General will have it that when once it is passed, there can be no more Synods to denounce education; while Lord John Russell as expressly states that though Synods are untouched for the present, he will be prepared, if need be, to curb them hereafter.

Mr. Fox opposes the bill because it would be a prop to established Episcopacy, and Mr. Sidney Herbert does the same thing for a reason exactly opposite. It is denounced by Sir Robert Inglis for doing nothing to protect Englishmen in their allegiance, and by Mr. Reynolds for doing everything to drive Irishmen from theirs. No two members support it—no two oppose it—with the same object in view, or even on grounds intelligibly similar.

It is not our purpose to take part in discussing what nobody can give any clear account of. It is very possible, before these lines see the light, that Ireland may have been struck out of the bill, or the trust clauses may have been re-inserted in it: no one can say what may happen, from hour to hour. It will be enough for the present to point to the seven days' debate as without precedent or example in the history of rational men, whether it be for the vehemence that has denounced, or the pertinacity that has supported, such a measure. Needless is it to observe, at the same time, what a moment's reflection will suggest to all, that the real question cannot be this which a proposed paltry legislation against bishops' titles would seem to raise. It cannot be *this* which causes Lord John Russell, the author of the Test and Corporation Act, the steady champion of religious liberty, to be baited and burnt in effigy as a second Titus Oates. It cannot be this which enables Sir James Graham, the resolute resister of the Irish Appropriation Clause, and the author of Education Clauses in the Factory Bill which not eight years ago deliberately re-imposed the most narrow religious tests, to assume suddenly the airs of a champion of conscience. The truth is far otherwise. Unhappily, a great argument has unexpectedly presented itself for solution, and no one dares to grapple with it. Every one is running away from it. There is nothing on all sides but the invention of excuses and pretences to evade it; and the natural result is, that every one is in a position false to himself, and unintelligible to lookers-on. Sooner or later, therefore, the people of England will have themselves to do what their statesmen dare not attempt. They will have to deal, in their rude grand way, with a matter calling for the highest discrimination of the most capable of intellects; and the almost certain result must be, that a large alloy of evil will accompany the good. For what will have to be determined is the compatibility of any kind of claim to ecclesiastical domination with the rights of political equality; and it extends further than is at this moment perceived. The amount of organisation and development of what is called religious freedom, which can with safety to civil freedom be permitted to continue, will have to be settled at last, and for ever; and in the treatment of the case at popular hands, doctrine and discipline may alike fare hardly. Small is the hope, nevertheless, that the existing combatants will be warned before that greater combatant steps in; though the time is fast advancing when all means of interference less peremptory will have passed away. There is not a family in the kingdom at whose hearth the facts disclosed in the case of the poor French miser, Mathurin Carré, and in that of the orphan English heiress, Augusta Talbot, have not, within the past few days, excited a feeling more fraught with danger to the substantial power as well as the flaring vanities of Cardinal Wiseman, than Lord John's retained or abandoned clauses strengthened fifty-fold, and backed by the support of Lords and of Commons and of the forces of the whole Protestant Establishment.

Mathurin Carré, with one leading antipathy in life (the hatred and avoidance of women), seems to have had two over-mastering desires: to scrape together money, and get back to his native country. But the sordid habit engendered by the first interfered to baffle the last; and, ultimately foiled in both his insatiable cravings, he died, as he had lived, an exile and a beggar. He surrendered his country at the opening of life, in alarm at the reign of terror; and in subjection to a worse terror at the close of it, he yielded up his money-bags. But though in revolutionary France, sixty years ago, political tyranny stalked about free and uncontrolled, it remains to be seen whether the law-courts of quiet and constitutional England, at the present day, are not able to render powerless a spiritual tyranny yet more degrading and hardly less appalling. It is in proof in this case, upon uncontradicted or admitted testimony, that, upon a particular morning, it became known to a priest of the Chapel of St. Aloysius in Somers Town that an old man, a miser, apparently in forlorn destitution but in reality the possessor of ten thousand pounds stock in the Bank of England, was dying in a wretched unfurnished lodging not far from the chapel; that, within a few minutes afterwards, the same priest presented himself at that lodging, and insisted on seeing the dying man without witnesses; that, within the next few days, similar interviews and intrusions followed, with more or less of violence on the part of the priest; that, meanwhile, a deed of gift and a will had been prepared, by an agent of the priest, not an attorney or solicitor, but a barrister and recent convert to Romanism, who played the part of both law-stationer and law-advisor on the occasion; that the will divided three thousand pounds between the testator's brothers and sisters, and that the deed of gift gave the remaining seven thousand to a Roman Catholic Female Charity, in connexion with the priest's chapel; that, while these proceedings were in progress, no order or petition of the sinking man could keep the priest from his bedside; that there, too, on a particular day, two women, friends of the priest, were introduced to witness the execution of the instruments; that, on that same day, held up in his bed, the priest hanging over him and speaking vehemently in a language understood by no other person present, the wretched miser and woman-hater signed the papers disinheriting his family and endowing the Female Schools; that these deeds, as soon as executed, were carried off by the priest in spite of the dying man's vehement desire to retain them; that the priest, having thus achieved his object, returned no more to his so-called "spiritual" charge that day, nor the next day, nor the next; and that on the evening of the latter the old man died, unconfessed and unshriven, but not before the savings of his miserable life, and the hard price of what should have been its last consolation, had been surrendered at the Bank of England to their new possessors! Such a case as this is worth a hecatomb of bills against Ecclesiastical Titles; and, as surely as the part which one of the new holders of those titles would seem to have played in the case of Miss Augusta Talbot shall be as clearly proved against *him*, will Cardinal Wiseman have to rue the day when he and his master's insolent brief issued forth from the Flaminian Gate. Strange destiny, that should couple the old miser on the brink of the grave, with this handsome girl in the flush of youth! But all is fish that comes into the net impressed with "the seal of the fisherman;" and inasmuch as 80,000*l.* have yet greater charms than ten, we have an entire holy sisterhood, and a bishop, and an earl, and a countess, set to work in Miss Talbot's case, for what was more efficiently done by a simple parish priest, and a barrister, in the case of Mathurin Carré.

The Spring Assizes have presented a heavy accumulation of crime, and not a few startling revelations of ignorance, its unfailing accompaniment. In charging the grand jury at Stafford, Mr. Justice Talford took occasion to comment on the significant fact that the calendar contained the names of thirty-four prisoners who

were utterly unable not only to write, but to read. To this accomplished judge it seemed as difficult for educated men to appreciate all that those words exacted of consideration and pity for men so circumstanced, as to ascertain the precise value of the instincts by which the lower orders of brute creation were impelled; and he drew from it the conclusion, that "some larger and more extended scheme must be adopted for the education of the people," not simply for the higher motives that concern us in relation to another life, but for self-defence against classes whom our neglect makes dangerous in this. In the same journal which contains that charge we find the report of an Assize sermon also at Stafford couched in a tone not less earnest and thoughtful. Inspired by the courage and gentleness of the Gospel he represented, this true minister sketched the career of a youth brought up in ignorance, quite uncared-for by laws or institutions till he began to violate them, and at last hunted to the felon's dock before the judges then listening to Christ's word. "My lords," he continued, "I do not ask your mercy for that man's guilt—it is not yours to bestow; but I claim your pity for his misfortune. I entreat your tender recollection of imperfect laws, which, in abandoning so much ignorance and mischief to its fate, are in part accessory before the fact in the guilt they indirectly generate."

Unhappily, the mercy which crime too often meets is not of this Christian character. It is a mercy hardly less vicious than the guilt it spares, as the Assizes on which we are commenting offer also remarkable proof. A woman who was tried for the murder of her two children, three years ago, and acquitted in the teeth of the clearest evidence of guilt, has now been convicted on evidence not more clear, not only of the murder of her husband, but of having used the interval of life which an English jury had given her, in pursuing successfully the assassin's trade. There cannot be a doubt that upon the authors of the impunity (from whatever motive) given to her first crime, there rests some part of the awful responsibility of the load of guilt afterwards laid upon this woman's soul; yet hardly had such misplaced mercy received that terrible illustration, when another woman was acquitted against evidence hardly less clear, and sent forth into society with like encouragement to sink deeper and deeper into crime. Connected with these cases, the hope may be expressed that some check to the sales of poison shall have been provided by Lord Carlisle's timely legislation on the subject.

Another clear and admirable act of proposed protection to the community, well worthy of special commemoration in these days of much senatorial talk and small legislative work, is the bill introduced by Mr. Baines (and already read a second time) to remedy the defective state of the law in regard to parish apprentices, and prevent the possible future scandal of comparative encouragement to such atrocious guilt as that of the Birds and the Sloanes. As the law now stands, incredible as it may seem, it is not a legal crime to starve an apprentice or servant unless the latter be a child of tender years; and even this enormous gratification (to the lusts of cruelty) of starving a child, is purchasable at the trifling charge of a brief imprisonment or fine, without the addition of hard labour. In such prosecutions, moreover, no costs are allowed; and, in the case of guardians of workhouses, not a single restraint exists to their abandonment of parish children to any kind of misery or deprivation, when once they have signed the indenture committing them to service. A simple but effective remedy for all this is provided by Mr. Baines. The period of "infancy" is extended, in the case of parish apprentices, to eighteen years of age; the liability of the master to supply needful sustenance until that age, is to be enforced by the penalties of the criminal law; any master or mistress who shall inflict upon a parish apprentice injuries calculated to affect life or "health," will henceforth be obnoxious to a lengthened term of imprisonment with hard labour; and not only will the court before which the indictment for injuring a parish apprentice may be tried have the power of allowing the costs of the prosecution if it shall see fit, but an excellent clause is inserted enabling any magistrate to certify for a prosecution, which is thereupon immediately to be instituted by the guardians or overseers of the union in which the offence shall have been committed. Nor is this all; for, by another provision of the bill, proper persons are to visit every parish apprentice at least four times a year, under the authority of the various union guardians. Thus a remedy has been found at last (and how easy are such remedies, when sensible and honourable men desire to apply them!) for a scandal by which our English reputation for humanity has suffered more in the eyes of foreigners during the last ten years, than perhaps by any other. Thanks to the prompt interference of Mr. Baines, the most helpless and destitute of all the various creatures to whom society owes care and support, the pauper child, the parish orphan, the workhouse apprentice, are no longer left to be starved or trampled to death without inquiry or redress.

Scotland and Ireland present a contrast in respect of the Ecclesiastical Titles' discussion sufficiently marked to claim from us a word in conclusion. Cries are heard from the former country of such singular feebleness that it is difficult to suppose them human, till they are discovered to proceed from that smallest and most insignificant of "cruel small" things, the Episcopate of the Scottish Church. On the other hand, from Ireland, the roar and clamour is so incessant that nothing else is audible. Even primate Cullen's Lenten injunctions to his faithful lieges "to say each day, at least, one Hail Mary, or any other prayer, for the conversion of England," appear to pass unheeded. The boys are too busy burning Lord John and the heretics, to trouble themselves with saying prayers for them. So the worthy Romish primate is fain to comfort himself with the monies which he describes to be pouring in from all quarters for the new Roman Catholic University, where all sorts of praying will be sure to flourish, to the confusion if not to the conversion of unbelievers who do not belong to "the true Church, *outside of which*" (we are quoting Doctor Cullen) "*there is no salvation.*" And having thus, in his pastoral, consigned the whole Protestant and dissenting communities to the flames, the holy man refreshes himself with the prospect of a similar fate for the literature that has encouraged them in their evil courses. No longer is the world to be satisfied with books as they have heretofore been written. An Index Expurgatorius, of unprecedented range, is to be set up by the new University. "Works must be furnished, written not on latitudinarian but on Catholic principles, and breathing a Catholic spirit." To which end the candid and philosophic Cullen, already famous for having denounced the astronomy of Galileo and Copernicus as an insult to the wisdom of Moses and the son of Sirach, exultingly recounts the subscription of sixteen hundred pounds, by Dublin alone, in proof that the good work is certain of accomplishment, and that "we have within ourselves, here at home, and in the persons of our brethren, who are scattered not only through the sister kingdoms and the British colonies, but the continent of America, ample resources, zeal, learning, talent, and the pecuniary means for the foundation of a University." To all which we have only to repeat, what we said on a former

occasion, that it is not natural these things should be forgotten when the next Maynooth debate comes on. If ample pecuniary means are within the reach of Irish Roman Catholics, for the perpetuation of a priestly bigotry and intolerance which consigns English Protestants to eternal reprobation, it is surely a little hard that thirty thousand pounds a-year should be drawn from the pockets of those very Protestant unbelievers, for the rearing of the very priestly bigots who thus denounce them!

NARRATIVE OF PARLIAMENT AND POLITICS.

ON Tuesday, Feb. 25th, in the HOUSE OF LORDS, the second reading of the *Marriages Bill* was moved by the Earl of St. Germans, whose speech was a perspicuous digest of the well-known arguments in favour of the measure. The bill was opposed, on religious grounds, by the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Bishop of Exeter. It was also opposed by the Bishops of St. David's and Norwich; who objected to it, not because the marriages in question are prohibited by Scripture, but that their tendency is practically mischievous. The bill was opposed, likewise, by Lord Campbell, the Bishop of London, and the Bishop of Ossory. It was supported by Lord Gage. On a division it was thrown out by 50 to 16. The House then adjourned to Friday.

On Friday, Feb. 28th, the Marquis of LANSDOWNE made a brief statement respecting the *Ministerial Crisis*; the most important part of which was the circumstance that, after the failure of the recognised party-leaders to construct a ministry, the Queen had sent for himself as a member of her Privy Council, and also for the Duke of Wellington, who was then with her Majesty.—The Earl of ABERDEEN briefly explained the part that he had taken: The first efforts made, in obedience to her Majesty's desire, in conjunction with Sir James Graham and Lord John Russell, led to the submission by Lord John Russell of a basis of agreement. All their differences were confined to one measure: Lord Aberdeen felt an invincible repugnance to adopt any measure of penal legislation towards the Roman Catholic subjects of this country, by the prohibition of the assumption of ecclesiastical titles. He thought no law, or at least none but some one of those barbarous laws, the text of which still disgraces our statute-book, had been violated; though sensitive to the arrogant tone assumed, which must in some way have engaged the attention of Parliament, he saw no sufficient ground for legislative interference. Without any previous communication with Sir James Graham, he found to his delight that he concurred entirely in this opinion. Lord John Russell was willing to make material alterations in his bill; but those would not have removed the main objection. The hope of that combination therefore disappeared. The Queen then graciously requested Lord Aberdeen to undertake the formation of a ministry alone; but, believing that a majority of the members of both houses of Parliament, and the mass of public sentiment, would have been in conflict with his opinion on the subject in question, he entreated her Majesty to permit him to decline the task.—Lord STANLEY said, that when, at the Queen's command, he repaired to her presence, he learned from her Majesty the reasons which Lord John Russell had given for his resignation, and then frankly stated his own views on that event. He now expressed his doubt whether the divisions on the motions of Mr. Disraeli and Mr. Locke King were the sole or even the principal causes of the resignation. He believed the mode of dealing with the papal aggression, and the difficulties arising out of the state of Protestant feeling, kindled by the letter of the prime minister, had much to do with the resignation; while the financial crochets of the Chancellor of the Exchequer had aggravated the difficulty; although the course taken by the ministry was not such as to induce the notion, that under ordinary circumstances so small a majority as fourteen on a motion could be held by them a sufficient reason for resigning. Lord Stanley corrected the statement that he had informed her Majesty that he was "not then prepared" to form an administration—incorrectly, but not intentionally, conveying the inference that he had abandoned the expectation of forming a government. It should have been accompanied by a qualification; though advising her Majesty that other means should

be tried first, yet when called on by his Sovereign, he did not hesitate to express readiness in the service of her Majesty to risk even failure and loss of personal reputation, everything but loss of honour. After the failure of Lord John Russell to form a junction with the party which he hoped it would not be thought offensive to call the Peelite party, from Tuesday morning to Thursday afternoon, Lord Stanley earnestly endeavoured to form a cabinet. In the position of parties, it was of the utmost importance, if practicable without sacrifice of principle, to obtain the co-operation of some of those who, generally acting on Conservative principles, had yet been separated by the unfortunate differences of 1846 from the great Conservative party of the Earl of Aberdeen. "The reply of my noble friend was expressed in language of the most sincere friendship, such as I have always entertained for him; but he could not give me the assistance I required. I had conferences with various friends in this and the other House of Parliament. I succeeded in obtaining the co-operation of some who, I had no doubt, would be most able to carry on the business of departments. I am not at liberty to give names, but one noble friend now present will allow me to say that I never felt anything more deeply than the terms in which he expressed his readiness to share the responsibility in administering a department for which the country would have found him peculiarly well qualified. On the following day Mr. Gladstone was expected to arrive. I thought it desirable to obtain the co-operation in the House of Commons of so able, honest, and upright a man. He had acted with the intermediate party to which I have referred; but, in contradistinction to that party, he had supported a motion for the relief of agricultural distress. On communicating with Mr. Gladstone, I found that he could not consistently with his views take part in an Administration. I was thus deprived of all extraneous assistance in the formation of a Government, and I was compelled to rely entirely on that party with whom I was immediately and politically connected. I found some who, from various causes—one from the pressure of domestic concerns, three or four from an undue depreciation of their own ability to fill the situations in which I proposed to place them—expressed their unwillingness to join an Administration. Yesterday afternoon, there met at my house a portion of those noble friends and those friends in the other House of Parliament, who had consented to take part if the Government had gone on; and the whole state of the case was anxiously and deliberately considered by them. I express the general concurrence of their views, as well as my own views, when I say, that though I was enabled to present to her Majesty a list of the names of gentlemen who were competent, with an assured majority in the House of Commons, creditably and reputably to conduct the business of the country, yet I could not lay before her Majesty a Cabinet, more especially in the other House of Parliament, so strong as to act in the face of a most powerful majority—a majority ready to combine for purposes of opposition, though unable to act together for purposes of government." There was not the slightest foundation for the statement that he wished the power of dissolution, and that her Majesty refused. He not only did not ask a dissolution, but he expressed his distinct opinion that a dissolution is impossible. Lord Stanley gave some indications of his contemplated policy as a Minister. He would not enter into a discussion of protection in the abstract, but he would take it as admitted that the land was labouring under the pressure of undue taxation, and that the result of the unrestricted admission of foreign corn had produced a more extensive effect than had been desired or imagined, and that no imposition of a moderate import duty could have raised the price even to an amount that was at the time of the intro-

duction of the corn bill scouted by the free-traders themselves. By the imposition of a moderate fixed duty they might raise a revenue of 2,000,000*l.* without materially raising the price of corn to the consumer. It was not adverse to the principles of free trade to impose, in favour of a class exposed to undue burdens, counteracting duties to meet those burdens, and he believed that by imposing a moderate fixed duty on corn they would in two years be enabled to get rid of the income-tax. In regard to the Papal aggression, he said he was the last man to interfere with the full and free exercise of the religious opinions and services of his fellow-countrymen. He knew not whether the act of the Pope violated the law, but though insignificant in itself, it had been rendered infinitely more important in the first instance by the insulting tone in which his bull was introduced into the country; and it would be inconsistent with the dignity of the crown and the independence of parliament, if steps were not taken to deal with the matter. He, however, did not approve of the measure of the government, because it bore on the face of it marks of passion and haste, instead of deliberation and anxious consideration. The Papal aggression, in his opinion, ought to be as strongly resisted as it would have been in the days of their ancestors; but he confessed he was not prepared to legislate on a question of such vast importance until he had time to inquire into its various bearings.

On Monday, the 3rd inst., the Marquis of LANSDOWNE stated that, in obedience to the Queen's invitation, her Majesty's former ministers had *Resumed their Places*, a step which had been taken in conformity with the advice of the Duke of Wellington.—The Duke of ARGYLL, in presenting a petition against Papal aggression, took occasion to remark upon the influence for evil still retained by the Roman Catholic power. A careful watch and defensive measures were requisite to guard against the usurpations of that power. He rejoiced to find that the changes of the past ten days had resulted in the failure of every attempt to form a government, one of whose principles would have been to ignore and leave unnoticed an act which constituted an aggression upon the public law of Europe.—Lord BROUGHAM implored the government to pause in their course of legislation upon this delicate subject, and rest satisfied with declaratory resolutions passed by both houses of parliament.—The Marquis of ELEANOR felt that the subject was so complicated, and the real state of the case so imperfectly known, that he recommended the appointment of a committee of inquiry before they proceeded to pass any legislative act.—The Earl of ABERDEEN, explaining some observations made upon a previous debate, observed that the term "persecution" changed its signification as time progressed, and the manners of men became more gentle and refined. Acts that were considered persecuting would have been deemed perfectly tolerant in days when religious differences were contested with greater cruelty. In reference to the bill of the government, he thought the policy they were pursuing was seriously erroneous.

On Tuesday, March the 4th, Lord MONTEAGLE presented a *Petition from Van Diemen's Land*, complaining of the continuance of transportation, and followed up the prayer of the petitioners with some remarks upon the vacillation that had been manifested by the government with respect to the convict system in the colonies. Repeated promises had been made that no more transported criminals were to be introduced into Van Diemen's Land; but the promises had been violated, and the colony very much injured. The Australian colonists were determined not to allow the entrance of any more convicts into their part of the world.—Earl GREY denied that any promises had been made by the government of which he was a member to abstain from sending criminals to Van Diemen's Land; but they had undertaken and succeeded in improving the system of management and discipline. He thought the system as at present pursued was best for the convicts, and not injurious to the colony; and adduced many facts to show the improvement that had taken place during the past few years among the transports, and the diminished opposition to their reception among the inhabitants of the colony.

On Thursday, March the 6th, Lord MONTEAGLE asked

whether the government had received from the Cape of Good Hope any official information with regard to the *Invasion of the Colony by the Caffres*, and what means for repressing it were at the disposal of the governor.—Earl GREY replied that information had been received of the irruption, and of one or two serious engagements with the Caffres. With regard to the force maintained for the defence of the colony, it was true that a reduction had taken place within the last few years, but not below the amount which Sir H. Smith considered necessary for the protection of the frontiers. At the same time, measures were in progress to send out a reinforcement both of men and guns, so that the means of defence might be equal to what they originally were in that colony.

On Friday, March the 7th, Lord BROUGHAM explained at some length the provisions of his bill for *Extending the Jurisdiction of County Courts*, which he described as extending to bankruptcy (out of London), equitable jurisdiction, arbitration, and reconciliation.—A conversation took place, in which Lord Langdale, Lord Cranworth, and the Lord Chancellor engaged, after which the bill was read the first time, and the house adjourned.

On Monday, March the 10th, on the motion of Earl GREY, the *Passengers Act Amendment Bill* was read the second time, after a brief conversation, during which several suggestions were made for increasing the protection and the comforts of emigrant passengers.—A bill was laid on the table by the Earl of CARLISLE, and read the first time, for *Regulating the Sale of Arsenic*.

On Tuesday March the 11, Earl FITZWILLIAM, in presenting a petition, made some observations on the *Ecclesiastical Titles Assumption Bill*, and after stating that though he did not go so far as some in their indignation against the papal aggression, still he was desirous that some measure to repel it should be adopted, and wished to know if the alterations about to be made in the measure now before the House of Commons would tend to render it inoperative.—The Marquis of LANSDOWNE replied, that certain alterations were about to be made in the measure to which Earl FITZWILLIAM had referred. The house would have ample time to consider the nature of those alterations when the bill came before it in due form. He could only say that the principle of the bill would remain untouched.

The second reading of the *Sale of Arsenic Bill* was moved, on Thursday the 13th, by the Earl of CARLISLE, who explained some of the details of the measure, by which caution and responsibility were to be attached to the sale of the article; he added that it was considered inexpedient to include other substances among its provisions, because the publication of a schedule of poisons would but serve as an advertisement of the existence and names of a large variety of deleterious ingredients.—After a few words from the Earl of MOUNTCASHEL, the bill was read a second time.

Lord BROUGHAM called attention to some protests he laid upon the table against the *Income Tax*. This impost, unjust and inquisitorial in its very nature, was, he complained, rendered yet more so by the improper selection of many of the subordinate officers entrusted with its collection.—The Marquis of LANSDOWNE offered a brief explanation, and the subject dropped.

Lord COLCHESTER inquired whether the government intended to bring in during the present session any acts for the regulation of the *Mercantile Marine*? and referred to the three acts introduced, one of which had passed last year, to remonstrate against bringing forward measures at so late a period of the session that they could not be properly considered.—Earl GRAYVILLE was understood to say that the intention of framing a bill for the general consolidation of all the acts relating to merchant seamen had been advisedly abandoned for the present. Some amendments in the mercantile marine act were, however, the object of a bill already introduced elsewhere, and would be carried forward so as to come before their lordships at the earliest possible period.

On Friday, the 14th, the *Sale of Arsenic Bill* passed through committee, Lord CAMPBELL expressing his satisfaction that the subject had been taken up by the government.

A conversation, commenced by Lord STANLEY, took

place upon the subject of an alleged excess of authority on the part of the Secretary of State, in requiring, under the *Census Act*, answers to questions not within its purview. It was explained, on the part of the government, by Earl GRANVILLE, that the queries referred to had been framed for the sake of information, and that there was no intention of proceeding against those who declined to answer them. Eventually, copies of all the forms and instructions issued by the Registrar-General were ordered; but, before that, an assurance was given that the objections should be considered, in order to see whether the queries should be modified or withdrawn.

On Monday, March 17, Lord CAMPBELL moved the second reading of the *Registration of Assurances Bill*, and gave a sketch of the history of the question, proving that the principle of the bill had been recognised by the highest legal authorities, and so far from being an innovation, it was rather a return to the ancient simplicity of the law.—After a discussion, in which Lord Brougham, Lord Cranworth, and Lord Beaumont took part, and in which the benefits which would attend the passing of some such measure were fully admitted, the bill was read a second time, on the understanding that it was to be referred to a select committee.

On Tuesday, March 18, Lord TORRINGTON gave notice that, on Tuesday, the 1st of April, he would bring before the House the *Affairs of Ceylon*. His lordship complained of misrepresentations which had been made by the chairman of the Ceylon committee in reference to his conduct while governor of the island, and said that he was desirous that the whole truth should be laid before the country.

On Thursday, March 20, the Earls of MALMESBURY and WINCHILSEA presented petitions from Wilts and Lincolnshire complaining of *Agricultural Distress*, and the latter noble lord said that he had heard the statement recently made by Lord Wodehouse, as to the improved condition of the labourers in Norfolk, with considerable surprise.—Lord WODEHOUSE adhered to his statement. He had made minute inquiries into the subject, and he was convinced that there was a fair average amount of employment. It was true that weekly wages had been diminished in some instances to 7s., but the corresponding reduction in the price of food had been so considerable, that the labourer was in a better condition than he had been with higher wages and higher prices.

On Friday, March 21, Lord BROUGHAM's bill for the further extension of the *Jurisdiction of County Courts*, of which the noble and learned lord moved the second reading, underwent some criticism and objection from the Lord Chancellor and Lord Cranworth. The bill, however, was ultimately read the second time without opposition.

On Friday, the 28th February, in the HOUSE OF COMMONS, Lord John RUSSELL entered into explanations respecting the *Ministerial Crisis*. Their substance amounted briefly to this. The insuperable objections felt by the Earl of Aberdeen and Sir James Graham to legislation on the assumption of ecclesiastical titles was the sole bar to union with them. He (Lord John) was willing to agree to considerable alterations of the bill, but must have persevered with it. Lord Stanley was again sent for, and had resigned the commission; and her Majesty, placed in this difficulty, had wisely sent for an old friend of the Crown, not more renowned for his distinguished services and the glory of his military achievements than for his knowledge of the constitution of this country—the Duke of Wellington. Lord John made some general remarks on topics of the day, and concluded by moving that the second reading of the *Ecclesiastical Titles Bill* should be deferred till Monday. Sir James GRAHAM gave some explanations respecting the circumstances which had occurred between Lord John Russell and himself, and entered at some length into the question of the Ecclesiastical Titles Bill. With the opinions he entertained, he could not consent to be a party to the further progress of this bill, or form part of an administration which had this measure of legislation for one of its chief cries. He knew the ground on which he stood, and though it was an un-

popular one he was quite ready to stand by it; and when the time came for the second reading of the bill he should be quite ready to express his opinions on the measure at greater length. A short conversational discussion followed. In the course of it Mr. HUME criticised the Budget; and Sir Robert INGLIS supported the Ecclesiastical Titles Bill. Mr. OSBORNE declared himself rejoiced at the speech of Sir James Graham, "because it let the country know that if he were called to the head of affairs he would conduct them with honour to himself and with satisfaction to the great body of the country." Lord John RUSSELL renewed the declaration that there is in fact "no administration now existing."—The motion to postpone the Ecclesiastical Titles Bill was agreed to; and the House adjourned till Monday.

On Monday, March 3, Lord John RUSSELL made some statements respecting the *Ministerial Crisis*, similar to those made the same evening by the Marquis of Lansdowne in the House of Lords. Lord John added that he proposed on Friday to proceed with the Ecclesiastical Titles Bill. On that night also he would state the course he meant to pursue as to other business. The House then adjourned to Friday.

On Friday, the 7th, Lord John RUSSELL stated that the mode in which it was designed to take the *Public Business* was as follows.—Sir George Grey would, that night, describe the proposed alterations in the aggression bill, but the second reading should be taken on Friday next, and he hoped that after such delay there would be no opposition to an early committee. The navy estimates should be taken on Monday next, with some army and ordnance votes necessary to the passing the mutiny act. The Chancellor of the Exchequer would state the alterations in the proposed financial measures on Friday, the 21st inst., and a resolution on the income tax was proposed to be taken on Monday, the 24th inst. Sir George GREY then proceeded to explain the alterations proposed to be made in the *Ecclesiastical Titles Bill*. After some preliminary observations, he said that he could not coincide in the proposal that Ireland should be exempted from the operation of the bill. If an insult had been offered to the Queen of these kingdoms, the exception of one of the kingdoms from the bill would imply that the Queen's authority was less paramount in one part of her dominions than in another. But he admitted that there was a difference between the conditions of the English and the Irish Catholic church, and that difference constituted the real difficulty in dealing efficiently with the question. The bill would inflict no hardship upon any English Catholic, but it might give ground for some objections as regarded Ireland. Denying, and going into argument to disprove, that the clauses complained of would have all the oppressive effects attributed to them, he stated that, upon mature consideration, government had continued to deem it necessary to have a parliamentary declaration upon the subject of the late aggression, but it was desirous not to throw new impediments in the way of endowing an unendowed church. It had therefore been determined to omit entirely the second and third clauses of the bill. It might be objected, that the bill would thereby become unworthy of attention; but he thought the reverse, and that it would be a parliamentary declaration against the titles so ostentatiously assumed. Such protest might have the effect of preventing the Catholic hierarchy from publicly using those titles, whatever they might do in private. After giving expression to his trust in the Protestant feeling of England, and his hope for the increased vigilance of the clergy, he said, in reference to the question as to the Scotch bishops, that those dignitaries had actually no right whatever to use titles derived from localities; and that if they were to be exempted from the operation of the bill, he should introduce words, providing that such exemption comprised no recognition of their now partial use of local titles. He concluded by moving that the order of the day be postponed until Friday. After a number of desultory remarks by various members, Sir G. Grey's motion was agreed to.

On Monday, the 10th, Lord John RUSSELL, in answer to some questions respecting the *War in Caffraria*, stated that the government had received despatches

containing official accounts of the disturbances, to the same effect as those that had appeared in the journals some days since, but not coming down to so late a date. Reinforcements had been despatched to the troops at the Cape, whose numbers at present were only 3699 men. The subject of the expense must be a matter for future consideration; at the present time the great necessity was to provide for the defence of the colony.—Mr. HUME regretted that the demands of the colonists so often reiterated, with respect to the composition of their local legislature, had not been conceded. As they were still kept without the means of self-government, there could be no doubt that this country must undergo all the cost of their defence.—Mr. V. SMITH inquired whether the government would give any information as to the conduct that had preceded, and the causes that had provoked, the present outbreak?—Lord J. RUSSELL promised the rapid production of all information that might be received. With respect to the extension of territory, and other military measures accomplished within the last few years, the effect had been, according to the best authorities, to render the British frontier much more defensible than before.

The House went into committee of supply, and Sir Francis BARING brought forward the *Naval Estimates*. Referring to the objections he had urged, in past years, to the system of taking scanty votes of supply, necessitating the annual introduction of an item of "excess" to make up the deficiencies, Sir F. Baring rejoiced to state that no such item would now appear, but on the contrary, the expenditure during the two years last past was nearly 700,000*l.* less than the amount voted by the house, and the accounts of the current twelvemonth would present a continuance of this saving to a considerable amount. Coming to the successive votes, he stated that the first, that fixing the number of men, would be the same as last year, viz., 39,000; and remarked that France, with much smaller demands for the protection of colonies and commerce, kept on service a body of 25,000 seamen. Since 1835, again, which had been assumed as a "model" year, the increase of expenditure in this item had been much larger with our neighbours than ourselves. While the number of men remained the same as last year, the next vote, namely, that of the money wanted to defray the cost, would be slightly increased, owing to some increase in the pay and allowances. After explaining the mode in which a reduction of 1,256,000*l.* had been effected in the dockyard, expenditure for building, repairs, works, &c., as compared with the votes of 1848-9, the right hon. baronet went through the remaining list of votes, on some of which small diminutions were apparent, while others, among which was that for the packet service, exhibited an increase. Altogether the result was that the sum total required for the navy services would be 171,000*l.* below the estimates of 1850; and this, he repeated, was far less than the probable reduction in the actual expenditure. Reviewing his own career as head of the Admiralty board, Sir F. Baring recorded the fact that in the financial year, 1848-9, the actual expense of the navy had been 7,955,000*l.* and that of the year about to expire only 6,362,500*l.*; showing that, after making full allowance for charges transferred to other heads of expenditure, an economy of one and a half millions had been accomplished in the two years of his administration. He contrasted this saving with the far smaller reductions accomplished during Earl Grey's ministry, from 1831 to 1835, during which period little more than a million was retrenched from the navy estimates, and contended that the comparison was one of which the present government had no reason to be ashamed.—He concluded by moving "That 39,000 men be employed for the sea service for the year ending March 31st, 1852, including 11,000 royal marines, and 2000 boys."—Mr. HUME called upon the Protectionists to assist him in his efforts to enforce retrenchment. He wished that they would look practically at practical questions, instead of getting up futile county meetings, calling names, and imputing evil motives to other people. Telling the Protectionist gentlemen that there will be no relief for them any more than for other classes until there is a decided reduction in our expenditure, he called on them to join him and take his budget; which would give them a

margin of at least ten millions. In place of the 19,500,000*l.* for the Army, Navy, and Ordnance, he would go back to the estimates of 1834-35, which amounted to some 12,000,000*l.* or 14,000,000*l.*; there was a margin of 5,500,000*l.* at once, which, added to the present Chancellor's surplus of 2,500,000*l.*, gave 8,000,000*l.* The interest of the Debt, 28,000,000*l.*, he would not touch; for he wished that that debt, large as it was, should be put in course of liquidation, and that we should pay our debts like honest men. The next item was the Civil List: of that he would not take one farthing from her Majesty; for he thought that she had at present too little for her own purposes, as she did not receive more than 60,000*l.* annually out of the 385,000*l.*, the remainder being frittered away in gaudy and useless parade. Look at the forty-five Lords and Ladies-in-Waiting, and the expenses of the Lord Chamberlain, the Lord Steward, and the Master of the Horse's department. All these should be kept within their bounds; and he called upon the Committee not to sanction a return to the folly of George the Fourth, who put these people all in livery, dressed them like trumpeters, and was not content till he cut out their coats himself. The whole amount necessary for the Civil List might be obtained from the sale of the Crown lands, which there could be no difficulty in effecting at their proper value. Then there were the expenses of courts of justice, diplomatic pensions, salaries and allowances; and he asked whether out of the sum of 2,800,000*l.*, which was thus annually consumed, at least 800,000*l.* might not be saved? At the same time, he would remove the whole amount of the Assessed Taxes, which fall so heavily upon the landed gentry. Of the expense of collecting the revenue, at present between 3,000,000*l.* and 4,000,000*l.*, at least one-half might be saved. Again, some 7,000,000*l.* that was taken in the course of collection never came to the Exchequer at all. He had himself in the year 1821 detected 220,000*l.* in the hands of one tax-collector, which would never have been heard of but for him. Mr. Herries framed an act intended to prevent the repetition of such occurrences as much as possible; but the thing still continues. The actual cost of the Colonies to Great Britain amounts to about 2,928,000*l.*, and that at a time when every colony is anxious to have self-government, and is competent to bear its own expenses. Last of all, upon the Miscellaneous Estimates no man could deny that a vast amount might be spared. Such a budget as this would enable the government at once greatly to reduce taxation and to lessen the burdens of the people. Mr. Hume concluded by moving an amendment on the motions of Sir Francis Baring, that the number of men granted be 30,000 men.—Mr. CORBEN, in supporting the amendment, compared the present state of the world, with that of the year 1845, when the naval estimates were so moderate. Then there were dynastic and boundary questions unsettled, involving controversies with and about Russia and France, Oregon, Syria, and Tahiti. Now, if ever, the world might be said to be in a normal and pacific condition. The French were using our arguments and following our course, by increasing their establishments as we increased ours. Was it impossible (he asked) to accomplish some amicable arrangements, by which two great nations might put a stop to this childish game of beggar-my-neighbour? Lord John RUSSEL supported the estimates. He admitted that a popular prejudice existed against the management of the public dock-yards, but denied that it was well-founded. Considerable improvements had been effected, rendering the works more economical and more efficient, and removing the stigma of corruption and favouritism. As to the number of men, it was below the average of the past ten years; and with respect to construction expenses, it must be remembered that a new power had lately obtained a vast development, rendering attacks more easy and rapid, and compelling a prudent provision of similar means for defence. Steam had gone far to deprive this country of the security it once enjoyed from its insular position, and obliged us to look with more jealousy upon the means of offence possessed by our neighbours. Under these circumstances, with an army comparatively so weak, and no reserve of militia, the naval defences of the

country were of incalculable importance. He did not fear invasion, yet could not look upon it as impossible; and those very free-trade measures which extended relationships of commerce and amity with the rest of the world, at the same time placed a new weapon in the hands of other nations, who might deeply injure us by stopping the supplies of food. As trade increased, so its safeguards ought to be preserved; and considering how numerous were our points of contact, and chances of collision, with nations only imperfectly civilised, the maintenance of the navy at its past average could not be deemed extravagant. He should postpone any detailed comment upon the African squadron; but affirmed that the efforts of our cruisers had been very successful, and the cause was one of which we had reason to be proud.—The other speakers for Mr. Hume's amendment were, Mr. Milner Gibson; Mr. Sharman Crawford; and Colonel Thompson. Against Mr. Hume's amendment, Admiral Berkeley; Mr. Plumtree; and Mr. Cardwell.—On a division, the amendment moved by Mr. Hume was negative, by 169 to 61; and the vote of 39,000 men asked by Sir Francis Baring was agreed to. Two following votes, for wages and victualling, respectively 1,435,723, and 500,632, were also passed after some conversation. On the vote of 138, 625, for the Admiralty office, a division took place on an amendment moved by Colonel SIBTHORP, who wished to reduce the salaries of the Lords of the Admiralty by 4,600. The numbers were—for the vote, 193; for Colonel Sibthorp's amendment, 34: majority for the vote, 159. After this division, the gallant mover of the amendment, loudly denouncing his own party as quite as unworthy of confidence as the ministerialists, walked out of the house, amid roars of laughter and cheering. Several other sums were then voted without opposition.

On Tuesday, the 11th, Viscount DUNCAN moved a resolution that all the moneys received from the *Royal Forests and other branches of the Land Revenues of the Crown* should henceforth be paid into the exchequer, and accounted for under the ordinary receipts of the national treasury. He based his resolution upon the fact that out of a gross revenue of 2,446,785, derived from the crown lands within the past seven years, only 774,000, had reached the public exchequer; and supported his arguments by a voluminous detail of waste, fraud, and mismanagement arising out of the anomalous and irresponsible manner in which those revenues were now administered.—Lord SEYMOUR referred to the old accounts of the Woods and Forests' office to show that the net revenue had been gradually improved, having advanced in England from 43,000, to 203,300, since 1809; in Scotland, from 14,900, to 26,800, since 1832; and in the Isle of Man, from 1,400, to 5,000, since 1827. From these improvements he argued that the past management had not been altogether reckless. Turning to the figures quoted by Lord Duncan, he claimed, besides the 774,000, acknowledged on the face of the receipts, the further items of 145,000, balance in hand; 116,000, paid under a vote of parliament for the Victoria park, and 216,000, expended under the provisions of various acts of parliament, some of which were as old as the reign of Charles the Second. Furthermore, there were the large sums appropriated to a large series of improvements under the direction of the Board of Works. These deductions would leave but a comparatively small amount, and would come under the supervision of the house if the resolution were carried; and it would also throw difficulties in the way of the intended separation of the Board of Works from the Woods and Forests department. He proposed, as an amendment, a motion for leave to bring in a bill to amend the management of the land revenues of the crown, and separating the stewardship of the royal estates from the superintendence of the public works.—After a suggestion from Mr. Hume that the resolution should be passed as a basis for the introduction of a bill hereafter, Sir B. HALL recommended that the crown property which had been so unwisely administered should be treated as the encumbered estates of Ireland were treated, and sold for the public benefit. He wished that the resolution before them should be passed, in order that parliament might get the estates into its hands and ascertain their value.—

Sir H. WILLOUGHBY adduced many instances of improvidence and waste in the past system of management, and stated that 1,200,000, value of lands and property had been sold, the money being laid out unprofitably, or left almost wholly unaccounted for. There were very large sums at stake, and a deplorable lack of checks and responsibility.—Lord DUNCAN replied, and the house divided—for the motion, 120; for the amendment, 119; majority against Ministers, 1.

The second reading of the *County Expenditure Bill* was moved on Wednesday, the 12th, by Mr. MILNER GIBSON, who briefly explained that its object was to enable the ratepayers to take a share in the control of the public expenditure arising out of the county rates. Having been read a second time last session, without a division, and referred to a select committee, the latter had rejected the whole of the bill, except the first clause; but in agreeing to that the committee had assented to the principle of the measure. Many errors had since been corrected in the bill, which was founded on the report of a commission appointed by government. It was now proposed that one half of the board to be constituted should consist of representatives of the ratepayers, and the other half of magistrates. Disclaiming any intention of casting reproach upon the latter officials, he declared that his object was to carry a constitutional principle into practice. The principal alterations in the present bill were, that the guardians were not to be paid for attendance; that the justices on the board were to be elected at quarter sessions; and that the guardians might select any persons they pleased to represent them.—Sir John PAKINGTON opposed the bill, and moved its second reading that day six months; but Sir George GREY having expressed his general approbation of the measure, and expressed his willingness on the part of government to serve on a select committee for considering its details, Sir John PAKINGTON's amendment was withdrawn, and the bill was read a second time, and referred to a select committee.

On Thursday, the 13th, the House of Commons did not make a house.

On Friday, the 14th, previous to the debate on the Ecclesiastical Titles Bill, Sir R. INGLIS presented a *Petition from the Hon. Craven Fitzhardinge Berkeley*, to which he begged to call the attention of the house. The petitioner stated that his step-daughter, Augusta Talbot, resided with him for some time after her mother's death; that then she went to reside with the Earl and Countess of Shrewsbury; that she, being still a minor, was a ward of Chancery; that she had been placed in a convent at Taunton, not as a pupil, but as a postulant; that in the month of September, 1851, her year of probation would expire, when she was finally to take the vows of a nun; that her fortune amounted to 80,000; that she was still under age, and would not attain her majority till the 6th of June, 1852; that if she became a nun her fortune, according to the laws and usages of the Church of Rome, would cease to be hers, and become the property of her convent, or be otherwise applied to promote the interests of the Church of Rome; that her fortune would, in fact, be confiscated to the uses of the Romish Church; that the petitioner, though the stepfather of Miss Talbot, was deprived of all communication with her; that her half-sister, the daughter of the petitioner, who was her nearest female relative, was not allowed to cultivate those relations which ought to subsist between persons so circumstanced. The prayer of the petition then was, that the fortunes of persons who, being minors, went into convents as postulants, should go, not to enrich the convent, but should become the property of the Crown, to be disposed of in such manner as the Sovereign should direct. The petition was ordered to lie on the table.

The second reading of the *Ecclesiastical Titles Assumption Bill* was then moved by Lord JOHN RUSSELL. An amendment that the bill be read a second time that day six months, was moved by the Earl of ARUNDEL and SURREY, in a speech of considerable length. The noble earl hinted that if the measure became law and were enforced, we might see a crowd of exiled English Roman Catholic prelates on the shores of Belgium, Holland, and France: and asked whether it would suit the views of English statesmen, that influential English-

men should so be scattered among foreigners always dinning into their ears a comparison of the treatment of their religion in England and abroad.—Mr. REYNOLDS seconded the amendment. He compared the past unpopularity of Lord Stanley in Ireland with the present immensely greater unpopularity of Lord John Russell; declared that he voted for the late motion of Mr. Disraeli to record his want of confidence in the Ministry, and was prepared to repeat the vote again and again,—though he regarded the motion as a thing having no merits at all, and in fact as perfectly absurd. He announced to ministers that he is “in the market,” and, “with a few others,” to be bought at the price of the “total withdrawal of this measure,” and the introduction of measures favourable to the physical interests of starving Irishmen.—Mr. McCULLAGH added a long list of instances to those already made public in which important ecclesiastical as well as lay functionaries, in official documents, have used the territorial titles of the Roman Catholic Bishops, in reference to the incumbents of those sees. He also read a case submitted to Mr. Bethell, of the English Chancery bar, Mr. Bramwell, at the English Common-law bar, and Mr. Surridge, the learned English conveyancing barrister, declaring unhesitatingly that the “first section of the bill involves the second and third sections,” and has all the effects which are supposed to be avoided by omitting the third and fourth sections.—Mr. ROUNDELL PALMER opposed the bill at great length, upon the principle that it is in a political and religious sense uncalled for by the emergency: he declared himself much more alive to the dangers which false and erroneous legislation of this description threatens to the great principles of civil and religious liberty, than to any idea which he is able to grasp of possible political danger: and with respect to the Church of England he did not fear—she had every advantage in the contest, and the contest would only add to her strength.—Sir R. INGLIS expressed his dissatisfaction with government, who ought either to have met the Pope’s act by proclamation, to have summoned parliament to legislate upon the subject, or to have signified to the Pope, through existing channels of their own creation, the opinion of the English people on his act. He accused Lord John Russell of having lost the quality of courage which Sydney Smith had assigned to him, and, as regarded this agitation, had “been scared at the sound himself had made.” The bill was very inadequate to the occasion, and unworthy of the Durham letter; and if Lord John Russell feared that parliament would not enable him to pass a better one, he should have advised a dissolution on the question. After dilating at great length upon the aggressions of Rome in various parts of the empire, and stating his apprehensions of a continued policy of assault on its part, he concluded by calling on the house to maintain Protestant associations. He would support the bill in default of something better.—Sir Robert PEEL (who spoke for the first time) declared himself an advocate for perfect toleration, and said he was prepared to resist all interference with the merely spiritual doctrine or discipline of the Roman Catholic church. But he proceeded to say that, believing the government bill to be calculated to control abuses, he should support it, regretting at the same time that the recently-announced modifications had been introduced into it. He expressed his sorrow at being unable to agree upon this subject with one to whom he looked up with respect and reverence, and with whom he was on most subjects happy to concur; but he supported this bill upon the very ground that he was a friend of civil and religious liberty. He then alluded to the aggrandisement of Cardinal Wiseman, as the self-sought tribute to the vanity of an individual; and reminded the house that the cardinal’s hat had often been conferred on most unworthy individuals. After a brief glance at several of the most prominent cardinals of bad historical character, he described Pío Nono as endeavouring to tread in the steps of Gregory VII. Next he referred to the various causes of complaint which the sovereigns of England, from King John downward, had had against the Popes, arguing that the policy of Rome had ever been and ever would be the same. He ventured to doubt that the Roman Catholics would be

induced to give the loyal obedience to this bill anticipated by Sir George Grey, but at the same time he regretted that Ireland was included in the measure, as it was, he said, futile to seek to struggle against convictions which the Irish Catholics believed to be religious ones. He next adverted to the dangerous character of Jesuitism, and said that he had been a passive observer of its agency in a small country where he had been diplomatically placed by Lord Palmerston, under strict orders to maintain a rigid and impartial observance, which the sights he saw around him made it very difficult for him to observe. Describing the struggle among the Swiss Cantons as having been stirred up by the mischievous agency of Rome, he cautioned the house to beware of dangers from that quarter, though proceeding from what seemed slight causes, and he dwelt upon Romish arrogance, hypocrisy, and indifference to the consequences, so that the end of Rome was served. Believing that the recent act of the Pope, though apparently insignificant, was the first step of a great system of attack, he entreated Lord John Russell to watch vigilantly over the interests of the nation, and implored the House by timely legislation to avert the dangers which threatened the state. The other speakers were Mr. Page Wood, in opposition to arguments used by Mr. Roundell Palmer against the bill; and Sir Benjamin Hall against the Papal aggression, but blaming ministers for the way they had met it. The debate was adjourned.

On Monday, March 17, Lord J. RUSSELL asked Mr. Baillie whether he had made any arrangement with other members in order to the bringing on his motion respecting the *Affairs of Ceylon* on the 25th inst.—Mr. BAILLIE complained that Lord J. Russell had distorted this motion into one of censure, and had thereby placed him in the invidious position of one who was impeding the discharge of public business. Lord J. Russell had also prevented this motion from being judged on its merits by its being made a question of want of confidence in the ministry. It had been a question of two years’ standing, and one which Lord J. Russell must constantly have expected. As he was not inclined to be made an instrument for enabling Lord J. Russell to escape from his public duties, he should remove his motion from the book, reserving his right to renew it hereafter.—Lord J. RUSSELL said that Mr. Baillie had originally described his motion as one of censure. It was a charge of wanton cruelty against Lord Torrington, and of unqualified approval of that cruelty by the Colonial Secretary. He never knew a case in which, such a charge having been made, the accuser had refrained from bringing it on as early as possible. This proceeding presented a contrast to recent political incidents, during which all parties had behaved to one another with great fairness.—After a somewhat sharp conversation, in which Mr. Disraeli supported Mr. Baillie, and Sir G. Grey and Sir B. Hall defended the conduct of government, the subject dropped.

The adjourned debate on the *Ecclesiastical Titles Bill* was resumed by Mr. MOORE, who denied the necessity of any legislative interference in the matter.—Mr. WIGRAM contended the interference was necessary, and that the Papal bull was a direct infringement of the Emancipation Act.—Mr. SEYMOUR, in a maiden speech, expressed his opinion that it was a violation of civil and religious liberty to interfere with the appointment of Roman Catholic bishops; but he believed that enactments might be made to restrain the number and look into the conduct of monastic establishments.—Mr. GOLDBURN said that, though he supported the bill, he did not approve the proceedings of the government with reference to this aggression; he thought more moderation at the beginning would have led to a calmer discussion of the subject, and he could not but fear that the discrepancy between this measure and the expectations which had been raised would have a prejudicial effect.—The SOLICITOR-GENERAL said the opponents of the bill, who had argued upon the fallacy that because the end was good the means were justifiable, had omitted one most important element. They argued that, because an organised hierarchy was essential to the development of the Roman Catholic church, it followed that the

appointment of bishops by the Pope was warranted. But the question was, had the Roman pontiff, by the course he had pursued, invaded the prerogative of the crown, and violated the municipal law of this country and the public law of Europe? Throughout the whole Roman Catholic period of our history the parliament never allowed the Romish see to interfere with the nomination of bishops. By the law of England, as well as by the canon law of Europe, it was not competent to the see of Rome to establish sees without the consent of the Sovereign. If this was the case in the Roman Catholic times, under what law had the Pope obtained the power now? It could not be contended that the functions of the bishops he had appointed were purely spiritual, when the whole country was divided into dioceses, and when towns were by the Papal brief elevated into cities. Incidental to the *status* of a bishop there were rights of a temporal character which our courts of law would enforce. This was an exercise of authority, therefore, which could only emanate from the Sovereign or the legislature. If an organised hierarchy was necessary for the development of the Roman Catholic church, and it could only be established by the Papal see, what prevented its being done in concert with the government of this country? If necessary, it should have been obtained by legal and constitutional means. Dr. Wiseman had said it was indispensable to the introduction of the canon law and to synodical action. They had not forgotten the synod of Thurles, and it was not likely that the synods that would spring up in this country, over which the government would have no control, would be more abstinent in the exercise of their jurisdiction and authority. Let not parliament refuse to the Roman Catholics any just claims; let it grant them as a matter of right, not of favour; but, on the other hand, let what was done be done through the intervention of the law and the known forms of the constitution. He did not agree with Mr. Palmer that he should wait until the evil became intolerable; he would make a stand in the first instance upon the law and the constitution.—Mr. CARDWELL said that the bill was a measure large enough to irritate, but not to satisfy; not adding any security to the Protestant church, but leaving in the vitals of the country a little festering wound. Believing that of all wars the worst is a little war, and the worst of little wars a little civil war upon religious matters; believing that this bill would not vindicate the honour of the crown, protect the sovereignty of Great Britain, or repel territorial encroachment; believing that the only remaining clause would be sure to be evaded, he refused his concurrence in the second reading of the bill. The debate was adjourned.

On Tuesday, March 18, the debate was resumed. Lord Ashley and Mr. Sidney Herbert were the principal speakers.—Lord ASHLEY said that resistance to Papal aggression was simply discharging a subject's duty in coming to the succour of the Queen. He was not for retrenching a hair's-breadth of the privileges already accorded to the Catholics, but he had a right to demand that such privileges should not be used to the hurt of others. This was no light question, for we were debating principles involving the future fate of empires. After replying to some objections which had been made to the bill, he warned the house and the country against the artful and deeply-laid schemes of Romanism, which (as in the case of the bishopric of St. David's) cautiously committed a violation of the law, and if that were permitted would afterwards stand upon such violation as a right. This act of the Pope was a virtual declaration that the house of Hanover had ceased to reign; and if the House of Commons would submit to such an aggression, the Queen and the country would not. He reminded the house that Dr. Wiseman had, in 1848, declared that he had taken Thomas à Becket as his father and model; and that his lordship regarded as a significant proof of the cardinal's real spirit towards the English crown. Denying that there was any persecution in the bill, he said that the only persecution in the case was by the Pope against the English Catholic laity. He dwelt at considerable length upon the increasing power and influence of Rome, and declared that the British people would never suffer synodical action on

the part of individuals owing allegiance to a foreign potentate; adding, that the introduction of the canon law would, from its effect upon the consciences of the Catholics, alter their position in ordinary transactions, in courts of law, and in society. He concluded with an earnest declaration of his determination to resist all Papal aggression.—Mr. Sidney HERBERT held, that in tolerating any form of Christianity, they could be scarcely said to be tolerating error. The vastness of the truth of redemption was so great, that an admixture of error could not overpower its effects on the human mind. Under this persuasion, he marked the theological character of the debate, and instilled charity. The people of England (he said) confuse bishoprics with titles; their abstract idea of a bishop is a person with 5000*l.* a year and great temporal advantages. If we had possessed an Episcopal Dissenting body, the distinction would have been clear: and if the Pope had called the bishops "overscers," so complete is our slavery to words that probably no notice would have been taken of the proceeding. In reference to the measure, if it is meant to make a protest and declaration, why not simply protest and declare, and not legislate—or, by trying to legislate, fall into the present inextricable confusion?—Lord PALMERSTON supported the bill, denying that it was of a penal or persecuting character (though he thought that charges of persecution came with the worst grace in the world from Catholic prelates); and declared that it was merely the complement of the measure for emancipating the Catholics, and in principle was precisely the same as that of the act of 1829. It applied directly to the evil for which a remedy was demanded, and imposed no restriction on the Catholic hierarchy inconsistent with the discharge of their religious duties. Nor did he believe it would be disobeyed by the Catholic prelates, for encroaching as their church was, it did not openly violate the laws of the country in which it found itself. Nor did the bill tie up parliament from further legislation, should such measures unhappily be needed.—The debate was then adjourned till Thursday.

On Wednesday, the 19th, the *Hop Duty Bill*, on the question of the second reading, was thrown out, after a short debate by a majority of 131 to 9.

The *Sunday Trading Bill*, after some discussion, in which it was opposed by Mr. B. Wall and Mr. Leonard, was read a second time and ordered to be referred to a committee.

The adjourned debate on the *Ecclesiastical Titles Bill* was resumed on Thursday, the 20th.—Mr. NEWDEGATE condemned the measure, as being quite inefficient against the dangerous encroachments of the Papal power. He asked Lord John Russell whether he was prepared to permit the residence of Cardinal Wiseman in this country, and intimated that if the people were unable to obtain legal protection they would take the law into their own hands.—Mr. Henry DRUMMOND delivered a speech which produced violent excitement in the House. He said the question was nothing less than this—whether Roman Catholics should remain a tolerated sect under the spiritual dominion of the Queen, or whether the Queen should be a licensed heretic under the spiritual dominion of the Pope; and whether one-third of the people of this kingdom, under the pretext of religious development, should be governed by a law unknown to the remaining two-thirds, and deemed by the former paramount to all other law? In the course of his argument, Mr. Drummond, apostrophising the Roman Catholics, exclaimed, "Your nunneries are prisons or brothels, and you may take your choice." This called up the Earl of Arundel and Surrey, who, with some emotion, appealed to the Speaker whether Mr. Drummond had not transgressed the rules of order. The Speaker decided in the negative, and Mr. Drummond resumed his argument, adducing various written authorities to show the usurpations in temporals, the intolerant and dangerous tenets, and the unchanged and unchangeable pretensions of the Romish See, commenting sarcastically upon the extracts as he read them. He then spoke of the attitude of the English public. "The people are now waiting for the decision of those leaders of opinion to whom they are accustomed to look up, and they are willing to abide by the decision

of this house. But, if the leaders and their parties throw them over—if you refuse to give them efficient protection—the people will take the law into their own hands; and the only way of preserving the peace is to give them a bill with adequate powers. When a nation is excited, a great many motives are brought out; but if there is one thing on which they are at the present moment more unanimous than another, it is in an honest John Bull hatred of imposture. Everything like imposture they detest; and above all, they scorn those who are importing cargoes of blinking statues, bleeding pictures, liquefying blood, and drops of the Virgin Mary's milk." During the delivery of these sentiments Mr. Drummond was interrupted by groans, cockerowing, exclamations of "Oh, oh," and all sorts of inexpressible noises.—Mr. O'FLAHERTY here rose to order, and submitted to the English House of Commons whether it would permit any portion of the members of that house, or any portion of her Majesty's subjects professing conscientiously no matter what creed, to be insulted; and he added, "I think the language that gentleman has used is as worthy of his taste as it is of his judgment." Great confusion ensued.—Mr. John O'CONNELL moved an adjournment of the House, and called "Order" so loudly, that the Speaker told him that he was out of order himself.—THE SPEAKER decided that Mr. Drummond having used no expression personally offensive to a member, or disrespectful to the house, was not out of order; but he, at the same time, expressed a hope that members, in discussing a question of so much delicacy, calculated to produce so much excitement, would abstain from all expressions that might cause irritation. This request, however, did not calm the disputants, all of whom rose at once, and each attempted to address the house. Another scene of extraordinary confusion was the consequence; the old noises, including the cockerowing, were renewed, and there were incessant calls for order, and the interference of the Chair. At length the Speaker said, "I must call on hon. members to support me in the maintenance of order. I have already stated that the hon. member for Surrey is not out of order, and I trust he will now be allowed to proceed."—Mr. Drummond accordingly proceeded, amid immense cheering. He said that he was not out of order, and that he had not been reprimanded. He had been provoked by repeated and offensive interruptions to say things which, in the heat of argument, escaped his lips. He did not retract one word of what he had said; but if he had given offence, whether merited or unmerited, to any individual, he humbly begged his pardon. He then concluded his speech by declaring that the bill was unjust and uncalled-for towards Ireland, and that a law must be passed to prohibit the residence of cardinals in Ireland, to avoid everything done under the canon law, and to extend the mortmain act for the protection of dying men.—Sir James GRAHAM began by condemning in strong language the tone of the previous speech. "I have seen," he said, "a gentleman, an accomplished gentleman and a scholar, so much heated by the subject we are now discussing, as entirely to forget what I must say is due to the feelings of a large body sitting in this house on terms of perfect equality. I will not sully my lips by repeating the words which fell from him, not only as respects the individual honour of members of this house—with reference to their veracity, but also as respects, what I shudder to think of—the allusion which he made to the female relatives of those gentlemen, who had devoted themselves to the service of God, according to their consciences, in lives of seclusion, but of chastity. Although the order of the house, according to its letter, may not have been violated by the honourable gentleman, yet if Catholics are to sit here and take part in our debates, I must say that the rules of order can hardly be said to be preserved in spirit if scenes like the one we have just witnessed are allowed to be repeated. I say that assertions have been broadly made in a tone and manner which must not be repeated, if the freedom of debate and the rules of order be anything else than a name." These remarks were received with loud cheers, chiefly by the Roman Catholic members. Sir James GRAHAM proceeded to say, that he would treat the subject as a

political as well as a religious question. His principal objections to the bill were—first, that it was the introduction of a penal enactment; and, secondly, that it was the reversal of a policy. He agreed with the ministers that if legislation were attempted upon this subject, it should embrace the whole United Kingdom; and if that was done, according to the Solicitor-General, by striking at territorial titles, this bill would put down an organised episcopacy in Ireland, and prevent meetings in synod. He doubted the Solicitor-General's law; but if accurate, it was clear that all that had been done in 1829 was as nothing. Two centuries ago there was an organised episcopate in Ireland, and the canon law existed there; if so, the blow about to be inflicted went further than the penal code which existed prior to 1829. Sir James then retraced the policy which had been pursued with reference to Catholic relief, and pointed out the difficulty of dealing with the Papal pretensions without reverting to the code of Elizabeth. The appointment of bishops was incident to the spiritual jurisdiction of the Pope, and territorial divisions were the necessary and inevitable consequence. With reference to the territorial titles of Roman Catholic prelates, Sir James quoted Lord Clarendon's letter, in which, he contended, these titles had been distinctly recognised; and likewise a speech of Sir J. Romilly, who had said, in terms, that "the Pope might divide the country into bishoprics and archbishoprics." If the effect of the bill as altered would be to carry its provisions to the same extent as in its integrity, the government, as he had said, must withdraw it; but, in the social condition of Ireland, this question should not be left in doubt. The passing of this bill would be a repeal of the Emancipation act, and then the dissenters must look about them. Synods were to be proscribed; but if laymen and dissenting ministers could meet, why should Roman Catholic bishops be interdicted? Step by step we should be led by this measure to the destruction, he feared, not only of religious, but of civil liberty. Sir James GRAHAM pictured the difficulty of the ministerial position, with their mutilated and emasculated bill. "You are (he said) in a dilemma: if you cut down your measure and reduce it to insignificance, you cover it with contempt: but while impotence is disgraceful, vigour is dangerous—so dangerous, that I do not dissimble that the danger which relates to Ireland is the danger of civil war." He concluded, amid loud cheering, as follows: "My Noble Friend (Lord J. Russell) has referred proudly to the names of Mackintosh, Romilly, Horner, Grey, and Althorp; but, alas! he omitted the great name of Grattan, now lying in the Abbey by the side of Pitt, Fox, Canning, and Wilberforce: does Lord John in his heart and conscience believe they would approve of this measure? Appealing then from the dead to the living, does Plunkett approve of it? does Brougham approve of it? does Deunam approve of it?—oh that he were here to announce for himself!—Does Macaulay, the great historian of the Revolution, approve of the principle of this measure? There may have been some movement towards Rome on the surface of what are called the higher ranks; but the deep under-current of the feeling of this country is essentially Protestant. It is written in their very heart's core; what is more, it is written in those Bibles to which they have access: and while they enjoy those privileges and possess those feelings, we have no occasion for a bill like this. I say there is no danger in England which justifies it—every feeling in Ireland condemns it. It is a brand of discord cast down to inflame the passions of the people; and, with confidence in the wisdom of parliament, I hope, and confidently predict, the bill will never pass into a law."—Lord JOHN RUSSELL, on rising, was received with such a burst of cheers and counter-cheers, that he was unable, for some time, to address the house. He hoped that the house would indulge him while he defended the general principle of the bill. For many years since the restoration of Louis the Eighteenth, the Court of Rome had endeavoured to revive pretensions, assert a domination, and restore a supremacy, that many thought had been for ever abandoned. Austria now surrendered to her that which had been pertinaciously withheld. If, after the sense of indignation this country

has expressed, the government should now recede, the friends of liberty throughout Europe would think that, in addition to all other conquests, the Court of Rome had obtained a conquest and triumph over the minds of the House of Commons of England. Lord John then proceeded to show the difficulty of defining what was spiritual jurisdiction, remarking that we could not trust to the decision of the see of Rome as to the division between spiritual and temporal matters; and, referring to the substitution by the Papal rescript of new sees for the ancient sees of England, he insisted that this was not a spiritual, but a temporal act—an assumption of power over the realm of England, at variance with the rights of the crown and with the independence of the nation. Then how was this aggression to be met? The expedients hinted at by Sir J. Graham might be wholly ineffectual; and if Cardinal Wiseman had been proceeded against under the statute of Richard II., the government would have been reproached for putting into activity an obsolete statute. Abiding by the sentiments contained in his letter to the Bishop of Durham, he denied that this measure fell short of the letter. His opinion was that our main security consisted in the liberty of conscience and of person, and in political freedom; but it did not follow that it might not be necessary to have some legislative assertion of the supremacy of the crown and nation. The measure, however, should be of the mildest character, and err rather on the side of deficiency than excess. If further aggression should take place—if attempts should be made to deprive the people of Ireland of the benefits of mixed education,—which the Roman Catholics had themselves sought for,—he did not deny that other measures might be necessary; for, while remaining a friend to religious liberty, he would never confound that cause with the cause of Papal encroachment. The debate was again adjourned.

It was resumed on the following evening, Friday, the 21st. Many members spoke on both sides.—The bill was opposed by Mr. Porteus, Mr. Gould (the new member for Limerick), Mr. W. J. Fox, and Mr. Roebuck; and supported by Mr. Baillie Cochrane, Mr. Child, Mr. Walpole, and the Attorney-General, who discussed the legal bearings of the bill, and the extent and manner of its operation in accomplishing its intended object. The debate was again adjourned till Monday.

On Monday, March 24th, the adjourned debate on the *Ecclesiastical Titles Bill* was resumed. The bill was supported by Mr. Milnes, Mr. H. Berkeley, and Mr. Grantley Berkeley; and opposed by Mr. Fagan, Mr. Smythe, Mr. Sadleir, Sir J. Young, Mr. H. Grattan, Lord Castlereagh, and Mr. A. B. Hope. A motion was then made for an adjournment, which produced an appeal from Lord John RUSSELL, that the debate, on which six nights had been spent, should be allowed to close. The house divided on the motion of adjournment, which was negatived by 414 to 64.—Mr. M. O'CONNELL moved an adjournment of the house; but the motion was withdrawn, Lord John Russell having consented to adjourn the debate to the following day.

The *Designs Act Extension Bill* was read a second time, after a short discussion.

The adjourned debate was concluded on Tuesday the 25th. The bill was opposed by Mr. HUME, who said that, on first reading the letter of Lord John Russell, he had sympathised with the political necessities which, he presumed, had compelled him thus to prepare employment beforehand for inquiet spirits during the session. But he found no justification for the bill now before them, or for the speech by which it had been introduced by the Prime Minister, and he saw no proof that the rescript was an aggression. The bill, he added, would create many inconsistencies in Scotland and Ireland.—Sir F. THESIGER condemned the bill as inefficient, but expressed his intention to vote for the second reading, partly because he thought legislation so necessary that he would accept even a minimum measure, but principally because he looked forward to the probability of getting it largely strengthened in committee. In no other way did he think it possible that the public could be satisfied, or the legislature of England be saved from becoming a by-word throughout

Europe.—Mr. GLADSTONE opposed the measure at great length. He admitted that the language of the Papal rescript and Dr. Wiseman's appeal were offensive, but it was the substance only with which it became the House to deal. The bill was in every respect contradictory and irrational. The temporal character of the Papal aggression had never been fairly proved. One class of arguments, asserting that the Catholic religion generally produced temporal evils, went much too far. Another class, based upon the assumption that all acts of the Pope had a temporal significance, because he held in Italy the title of a temporal prince, fell just as much too short. Interference could not be justified until it was shown that the new bishops were appointed for temporal purposes and invested with a temporal authority. This, he contended, had never been done, and, failing in this, he had no right to fetter the spiritual liberties of the Catholic subject. To the apprehensions expressed against the Roman canon law, he replied that the bill contained no provision to keep it out. But the fact was that the canon law would create a safer and more constitutional government of the catholic Church in this country, and leave it less in the power of the Papacy than it was at present. It was a serious matter to invoke the secular authority upon religious subjects; and to this question he invited the solemn consideration of the house. If an act must be passed, he insisted that it should be made uniform, including the Presbyterian and Wesleyan bodies, and not making an invidious exception against the Catholics. The real import of the Papal measure had been altogether misapprehended. It was a fact not generally recognised, but which he quoted many authorities to substantiate, that the establishment of an episcopate in England had been for three centuries vainly sought by the moderate section of the Anglican Catholics, as against the extreme or ultramontane party, and, in that desire, had been supported by the government, even in the days of Queen Elizabeth. Gross, therefore, was the injustice of now seeking to prohibit this proceeding under a pretended fear of ultramontane intrusion. Mr. Gladstone concluded by protesting against the present miniature of a penal law, which might be a nullity in practice, but was a persecution to conscience and feeling. It was disgraceful to attempt, and impossible permanently to effect, a retrograde step towards religious intolerance.—Mr. DISRAELI said that though he believed the measure to be wholly insufficient, yet, like Sir F. Thesiger, he should vote for the second reading in the hope that it might be improved in another stage. On a division, the second reading was carried by 438 to 95—majority 343.

PROGRESS OF BUSINESS.

House of Lords.—Feb. 25th.—Marriages Bill thrown out on second reading.

28th.—Vice-Chancellor's Bill read a third time and passed.

March 6th.—Income Tax Resolutions introduced by Lord Brougham.

7th.—County Courts Extension Bill introduced by Lord Brougham.

10th.—Passengers Act Amendment Bill read a second time.—Sale of Arsenic Bill read a first time.

13th.—Sale of Arsenic Bill read a second time.

14th.—Designs Act Extension Bill passed through committee and reported.—Prevention of Offences Bill read a second time.—Passengers Act Amendment Bill reported.

17th.—Registration of Assurances Bill read a second time, and referred to a select committee.

21st.—County Courts Extension Bill read a second time.

25th.—Commons Enclosure Bill read a third time and passed.

House of Commons.—Feb. 28th.—Metropolitan Cattle Market Bill; second reading opposed and postponed.—Ecclesiastical Titles Bill postponed.

March 7th.—Public Business; statement by Lord J. Russell.—Ecclesiastical Titles Bill; statement of proposed alterations by Sir G. Grey; second reading postponed till Friday.—Vice-Chancellor's Bill read a second time.

10th.—Caffre War; statement by Lord J. Russell.—Navy Estimates.

11th.—New Writ for Dungarvon, in room of Mr. Sheil.—Lord Duncan's Resolution respecting the Woods and Forests carried against Ministers by 120 to 119.—Leave given Mr. Lacy to bring in a Bill to prevent the Forcible Detention of Females in Religious Houses.

12th.—County Expenditure Bill read a second time and referred to a select committee.—Apprentices and Servants Bill, and Expenses of Prosecutions Bill, read a second time.

14th.—Petition presented from the Hon. Craven Fitzhardinge Berkeley.—Debate on second reading of Ecclesiastical Titles Bill commenced and adjourned.

17th.—Mr. Baillie's Ceylon Motion postponed.—Ecclesiastical Titles Bill; debate on second reading.

18th.—Adjourned debate on ditto.

19th.—Hops Bill thrown out on second reading.—Sunday

Trading Bill read a second time and referred to a select committee.—Expenses of Prosecutions Bill, Apprentices and Servants Bill, a New Vice-Chancellor Bill, passed through committee.

20th.—Ecclesiastical Titles Bill; adjourned debate.—Consolidated Fund Bill read a second time.

21st.—Ecclesiastical Titles Bill; adjourned debate.

25th.—Ditto, division, second reading, carried.

Much agitation prevails in Ireland on the *Papal Aggression* question. Twenty-one out of twenty-eight of the Irish Roman Catholic Prelates assembled in Dublin on the 25th ult., to consider the course they shall take in reference to the Ecclesiastical Titles Bill. They agreed to the drafts of addresses to the Queen, to the House of Commons, and to the Roman Catholic people of Ireland. The conference was continued next day, and it was understood that the four Roman Catholic Archbishops were then commissioned to cross the Irish sea and "seek the privilege of presenting the addresses to the Queen at the foot of the Throne."

The following protest against the Ecclesiastical Titles Bill has been signed by eighty-eight members of the Irish Roman Catholic bar; the signatures including two Queen's Serjeants, Hawley and O'Brien, several Assistant Barristers, and others holding appointments under the Crown.

"We, the undersigned Roman Catholic members of the Irish bar, feel bound publicly to declare our sense of the impolicy and injustice of the bill now before Parliament respecting ecclesiastical titles.

"We take this step with reluctance, because we are unwilling to act on public questions as a separate class in the community in respect either of our professional position or our religious belief; but on this occasion we fear that silence on our part might be construed into acquiescence.

"We view the proposed measure retrogressive and penal in its character, an infringement upon religious liberty, an unwarrantable interference with the discipline of our Church, and a departure from the policy recently pursued by the Legislature in facilitating the voluntary endowment of the Roman Catholic hierarchy and clergy of this country.

"We object to this measure because, by subjecting our religion to special legislation of a vexatious character, it will place the Roman Catholic people of Ireland in a position of inferiority to their fellow subjects.

"We object to the measure because it will create new difficulties in the administration of charitable and religious trusts connected with the Roman Catholic Church, unduly control the free disposition of property, interfere with and endanger settlements made upon the faith of existing laws, and in its results be productive of great embarrassment and irritation.

"Finally, we object to the measure because it has been conceived and framed in a spirit of hostility to the Roman Catholic religion, and because it is calculated to revive animosities which have been so baneful to our country, and which in latter years had been rapidly subsiding."

Meetings on the subject have been held in all parts of the Roman Catholic provinces.

The Romish Archbishop of Tuam has addressed a letter to Lord John Russell on the subject of the Ecclesiastical Titles Bill. "His Grace" spurns every idea of concession or compromise. The following passages of this epistle are specimens of the tone of the whole:—"You now, forsooth, condescend to bring in your penal bill in a more mitigated form. No mitigation short of its utter rejection will satisfy the Catholic people of Ireland. We are conscious of no crime, our allegiance to our beloved Sovereign is beyond reproach or impeachment. Why, then, threaten us with a bill of pains and penalties under any form? There are laws of higher and holier obligation than those which are enacted by men; and your lordship must be aware how powerless

must be all enactments that may clash with the paramount obligations of the laws of God. The history of all the persecutions of the church, from the days of Nero to that now meditated, is nought but the unhallowed efforts of men to substitute arbitrary and unjust enactments for the inviolable obligation of the Divine laws," "The truly heathenish ignorance and brutal vices into which that portion of the English population is sunk who have no instructors but those who have broken off all communication with the apostolic see, is a lamentable commentary on the folly as well as error of mere national or secular churches. What wonder that they should become worse than heathens, when their high priests tell them that the great sacrament of baptism, by which sinful man passes from the state of heathenism into God's church, is not necessary to salvation!! The eyes of all are turned now to Parliament, watching to see whether their members are at their posts, though, like the Roman senator of old, they should be carried thither on their couches. No apology can henceforth plead with the people if those members do not exert themselves in stopping the present penal enactment. Opposition—stern, persevering opposition—to your hateful measure, in season and out of season, is the paramount duty of every Irish member of Parliament, as well as opposition to every other measure you propose, until you abandon the bill which in an evil hour you proposed, or until once more you abandon the helm."

A large and influential meeting of the inhabitants of Glasgow assembled in the City Hall on the 19th, and passed resolutions against the *Papal Aggression* in England. It was resolved to petition Parliament to withdraw from the Church of Rome the national encouragement she now receives from the public funds and otherwise; to place all convents and nunneries, and similar establishments of the Roman Catholic Church, under regular public inspection; to amend the laws of mortmain, and generally repress the aggressive spirit of Popery. Mr. Henry Dunlop, of Craigton, presided; and the movers of the resolutions were Dr. Macleod, of the Established Church; Baillie Playfair; Dr. Buchanan, of the Free Church; Mr. J. Henderson, of Park; Dr. King, of the United Presbyterians; Sir James Campbell; Dr. Bates, of the Reformed Presbyterians; Baillie McDowall, and Dr. Smith.

At a meeting of the *Electors of Lincoln*, held on the 7th, resolutions were adopted pledging the meeting to support Sir Bulwer Lytton at the next election; and a committee was appointed.

It is stated that the following reductions have been made in the expenses of the *Diplomatic Service*, to take effect from the 6th of April next. There are to be in future but two British Ministers abroad with the rank of Ambassador, namely at Paris and Constantinople. The Paris embassy is reduced from 10,000*l.* to 8000*l.* a year. The Madrid mission is reduced from 6000*l.* a year and 550*l.* for house-rent, to 5000*l.* a year, and 700*l.* house-rent. The Vienna mission is reduced from 9000*l.* a year and 900*l.* house-rent, to 5000*l.* a year and good house-rent. The Secretary of Legation of Vienna to have 550*l.*, instead of 900*l.*, hitherto paid to the Secretary of the Embassy.

NARRATIVE OF LAW AND CRIME.

At the Northampton Assizes, on the 1st, James Watkins, a private in the 15th Regiment of Foot, was charged with *Setting Fire to a Military Prison* at Weedon, near Northampton. He had been sentenced by a court-martial to two years' imprisonment, and attempted to destroy himself by setting fire to his cell, but his cries betrayed the attempt and his own imminent peril. Baron Alderson sentenced the prisoner, who avowed that he had intentionally fired his cell, to ten years' transportation.

At the Clare Assizes an old man named Quinlivan was found guilty of the *Murder* of a poor woman, who had been left the sum of two shillings by her husband to support her during his absence in search of work. The prisoner, who was a neighbour, was aware of this circumstance, and it appears, committed the crime for the sake of that wretched amount.

An elderly woman who carries on the trade of a *Fortune-teller*, was charged at the Marlborough Police Court, on the 1st inst., with obtaining money from several young women by fraudulent devices. The evidence of two of the witnesses showed how silly girls are fleeced by these impostors. Margaret Nicholson, daughter of a tailor, said a female friend had told her of the great good which she had experienced in obtaining from the Foley-place fortune-teller the information that in a very short time her hand and heart would be obtained by a "fair diamond man," whose wealth consisted of no end of gold, silver, and precious stones. The next day (Tuesday) she went to the fortune-teller's house, and was shown into a back kitchen, where the prisoner was busily engaged peeping into futurity by the help of a pack of playing cards. Witness having stated her errand, which, of course, had reference to her future spouse, was told to put down sixpence, and then to shuffle the cards. She deposited her money and shuffled as directed. The prisoner looked at the cards and hinted at a "black man," but seeing unmistakable signs of dismay at the prospect of this dingy bargain, she altered the decree of fate to a man abroad between colours—neither black nor white. The prisoner could promise nothing better, but she invited her to call again, and to recommend her friends, giving her a card, with "Catherine Meadows—one knock" on it. Sarah Chapman had also heard of the fame of the fortune-teller, and had made up her mind to have a sixpenny shuffle for a husband. She went, and, as the first witness stated, was promised within a month a fair diamond man, young, and six feet high. Perfectly contented with her lot, she told her good luck in confidence to her female acquaintance, and they went, she believed, to the same oracle, for a similar purpose. This witness appeared to be very reluctant to believe that the prisoner was an impostor. Besides promising her a husband, the prisoner had told her other matters which were marvellously true; for instance, the prisoner told her, "She was fickle-minded, would make a good wife, and now and then did silly things;" facts which could not be denied. The judge committed the prisoner as a rogue and a vagabond for 14 days.

At Abingdon assizes on the 1st, Catherine Tilley was tried for *Forging and Uttering a Check for 20l.* She had been in the service of Mr. Somes, a married farmer; three days after leaving her situation she attempted to get the check cashed. Mr. Somes declared that he had not written the check, had never given a blank check to anyone, nor had authorised any one to fill up a check in whole or in part. The defence was, that Mr. Somes had given the woman a signed check, with authority to fill it up, in consideration of certain favours conceded to him by the prisoner. Mr. Somes, when cross-examined, refused to answer questions respecting his intimacy with the accused; and some of his answers on the appearance of his check-book were not quite satisfactory. The verdict of "not guilty" was received with loud expressions of approbation by the people in court.

William Hurst was tried at the same assizes for *Shooting at his Wife*, with the intent to murder her. The woman had left her husband and was living with another man. Hurst went to the inn at Daventry where they lodged, encountered his wife, and fired a pistol at her, inflicting wounds which endangered life. The jury found the prisoner guilty; and sentence of death was recorded.

At Oxford Assizes, on the 4th, John Lambourne, a middle-aged labourer, was tried for *the Murder of his Wife*. The woman was found dead in the garden of the cottage, her husband giving the first alarm; death had been caused by a wound on the head, apparently inflicted with a pair of tongs which were found in the house. The couple had often quarrelled, and Lambourne had sometimes beaten his wife—a poor diseased creature; he had often wished she was dead, and dropped suspicious expressions respecting her. On the other hand, there was no direct evidence against him, and no blood was found upon him, though that evidence of the murder had been scattered in all directions round the body. His counsel urged that robbers might have been the murderers. After deliberating for an hour the jury gave a verdict of acquittal.

At Durham Assizes, on the same day, Robert Thirkeld was tried for shooting at Joseph Langstaff with intent to *Murder him*. Thirkeld was poaching; Langstaff, a keeper, detected and followed him, and the prisoner fired at his pursuer. Langstaff held up his arm to protect his face, and this alone probably saved his life. The jury convicted the poacher of assault only. Mr. Justice Cresswell sentenced him to be imprisoned for two years.

A verdict of "Felo de se" has been returned by a jury, at Brecon, on the body of George Miller, a young man who *Destroyed himself by Swallowing a large quantity of Arsenic in a Glass of Beer*. The motive is said to have been jealousy; a young woman to whom he was attached having latterly shown a preference for an actor. There was no evidence to prove insanity: the witnesses spoke of Miller as having been collected, though rather elevated with drink, when he took the poison; he had purchased it on pretence of killing rats. The body was interred in a churchyard at night; and the crowd who attended sang a hymn when the burial was over.

The House of Lords, on the 6th, heard evidence on *Heathcote's Divorce Bill*, and *Maclean's Divorce Bill*. The adultery of the wife was proved in each instance by letters admitting the fact, and praying forgiveness: in the former case it had taken place with the wife's own brother, who has since become convicted of forgery and been transported for seven years. Both the bills were read a second time.

Sarah Chesham, a masculine-looking woman, was tried at Chelmsford, on the 6th, for the crime of administering to Richard Chesham, her husband, a quantity of *Arsenic*, with intent to murder him.—This case created much interest on account of the terrible celebrity gained by the prisoner. She was tried in 1847 at these assizes upon a charge of poisoning two of her children; but although the evidence was most cogent, and left very little doubt of her guilt, she obtained a verdict of acquittal. She was implicated in another charge of poisoning, when she again escaped justice; and in 1849, a woman named May, who was convicted of poisoning her husband, and who was executed for that offence, admitted, after her conviction, that she had been instigated by the prisoner to the commission of the dreadful act for which she suffered. The evidence fully brought home the charge to the prisoner. She administered arsenic in rice puddings to her husband, who, after many weeks' lingering, died in May, 1849. The Jury returned a verdict of Guilty; and sentence of Death was passed by the Judge. The woman heard her doom without the slightest apparent emotion.

The trial of Drory, for *the Murder of Jael Denny*, took place at the Chelmsford Assizes on the 7th and 8th. There was no new evidence given beyond that which was given at the time the murder was discovered and the prisoner committed for trial. His counsel laid much stress on the eagerness with which the Police have followed up the case; supporting his assertion that they have too willingly seen proofs of guilt in every point, by reference to the actual fact, now undenied, that Inspector Coulson deposed that the piece of rope with which the murder was committed—found twisted round the neck of the corpse—corresponded exactly with a piece which he found in the prisoner's box, whereas the two pieces were now found to be twisted in opposite directions. Some witnesses proved that Jael Denny had often talked of self-destruction, and had generally said she would use "a line," or piece of rope, in the act. Two medical witnesses also deposed, that after considering all the circumstances, they "felt considerable doubts whether the deceased did not destroy herself." Lord Campbell advised the Jury not to give any effect to suspicions or probabilities, and to acquit the prisoner if they felt any doubt whether the case was one of suicide or of murder. The Jury deliberated about ten minutes, and returned a verdict of "Guilty." Drory maintained a cool demeanour throughout his trial; but on his removal back to gaol under sentence of death, his firmness vanished, and he gave way to a paroxysm of tears, which ended in a virtual admission of his guilt to the chaplain. Subsequently he gave some confirmatory details, but a formal confession has

not been encouraged. His execution was fixed for the 25th inst.

The six men who made themselves noted by their *Burglary in the House of the Misses Farncombe, near Uckfield*, were tried at Lewes on the 12th; and a woman, the companion of one of the men, was tried with them, as a receiver of some of the stolen property. The most important witness was an accomplice named Hamilton; who described the arrangement for the burglary—the assembling of the forces, the putting on of masks, the taking off of shoes and waistcoats, the entering on the premises, the violence to the butler, and terrorism over the ladies. The butler identified two of the men by their voices; and the stolen property found on others of them helped to prove their guilt. A verdict of “Guilty” was returned against all: the men were sentenced to be transported for life, the woman for fourteen years.

At the Oxford Assizes on the 8th, Eliza Smully, a girl of seventeen, was tried for the *Murder of Francis Page*, the wife of a farmer with whom the prisoner resided as a servant. It was proved that the girl had put arsenic into the coffee which she prepared for her master and mistress's breakfast. They were both taken ill after partaking of it; Mr. Page recovered, but his wife died. The prisoner had stated to the constable, and afterwards to the coroner, that “she did not think it would have killed her mistress; she only thought it would make her badly.” She also said that she never had any complaint against her master or mistress; and it appeared, in fact, that they had always treated her with great kindness. When asked the reason for what she had done, she had said to one witness that her mistress had come down like a bull-dog that morning; and to another, that on the Saturday before, her mistress had charged her with killing a fowl, and she had told her mistress that she did not.—The jury found the prisoner guilty of manslaughter only, and she was sentenced to transportation for fifteen years.

In a case of *Bigamy* tried at the Northallerton assizes, Baron Platt gave a judgment which marked his sense of the inequality of the Divorce Laws for the rich and the poor. A young man, named Wilby Gaunt, was charged with having in December last, at Great Driffield, married Margaret Jennison; his former wife, Margaret Gaunt, being then alive. The first marriage was solemnised at the Baptist Chapel, Lincoln, on the 23rd of June, 1845, and, as the prisoner said, he lived with her for six weeks, when he absconded, as she proved unfaithful. On the 29th of December last he was married to Margaret Jennison, of Hutton Cranswick, at the Registrar's office, Great Driffield, and she said they had lived comfortably together. The sister of the first wife said she was now living as “housekeeper” to another man, and had a child a year and a half. The judge, in passing sentence, said the prisoner had married a profligate woman, who was now living with another man, and was the mother of a child. Of course he could not live with such a woman. If he had been a rich man he might have gone to a court and got a divorce, by which the marriage would have been dissolved, and he would have been a free man. But he was a poor man, and could not go to that expense. That was one of the great defects of our law. He had been guilty of a breach of the law, for which he must be punished; and the sentence of the Court was that he be *imprisoned for seven days*. Loud marks of approbation followed the sentence.

Illicit Distillation on a very extensive scale has been discovered at a house in a street leading from Hackney to Bethnal-green. At a late hour on the night of the 7th, two officers forced an entrance into the house, and captured a man named Wood, in the passage. Wood, who was in his shirt-sleeves, denied all knowledge of any such illegal practices, but upon going up-stairs the officers found the whole of the top part of the house fitted up in the most complete manner for distillation. In the first room they found a large still in full operation, with tubs and coolers filled with molasses wash to the extent of several hundred gallons, and a large quantity of spirits of the strongest quality just run off, while in the room adjoining was a still larger copper still, containing 80 gallons of wash, with furnace alight, and throwing off spirits to a proportionate extent. Wood was brought

before the Worship-street Police Court, and it being proved that both stills, from their peculiar construction, must have burst and destroyed the place if some one had not been in constant attendance upon them, the magistrate convicted him in a penalty of 30*l.*, and in default of payment sentenced him to three months' hard labour in the House of Correction.

At the Lincoln Assizes, on the 10th, George Tuplen was tried for *Night-poaching*. The gamekeepers of the Rev. Charles Constable, who lives near Teally, adopt an ingenious device for obtaining information whether poachers are out. They place a six-barrelled gun in a wood where game is preserved, and attach to it wires, which are carried in different directions at some distance from the ground, so that a man passing through the wood would come in contact with the wires, and notice of his presence would immediately be given by six distinct reports. On the night in question, the 12th of December, between 7 and 8 o'clock, their attention was aroused by hearing the six reports of the alarm gun, and upon going out they met with five men, four of whom at once ran away. The fifth had a gun, and turned once or twice, using threatening language. The prisoner was sworn to as being that man, and he was some days afterwards apprehended in Hull. He was found guilty, and the judge, in sentencing him to six months' imprisonment with hard labour, said that he imposed so light a punishment because there did not appear to have been any disposition to commit violence on the part of the prisoner or any of the party with whom he went out on the night in question.

At the Lewes Assizes on the 12th, an action was tried at the instance of H. Hart to recover damages from Messrs. Bradbury and Evans, for a *Libel in Punch*. The plaintiff, who is a Jew, had been taken into custody for inciting a young man named Newland to rob his employers, and it will be recollected that about the same period another Jew named Barnett was charged with a similar offence. Upon the trial of the plaintiff it turned out that Newland told a great many lies upon the matter, and as his evidence was not corroborated in any manner the jury acquitted him. The other man, Barnett, however, was convicted, and he was sentenced to be transported for fourteen years. It appeared that before the trial some comments had been made upon the conduct of the plaintiff in “Punch,” and it was for those comments that the present action was brought. There were three counts in the declaration—the first charging the publication of a specific libel, to which the defendants pleaded that they had made the publication without malice, and had subsequently published an apology, and had paid 5*l.* into court as damages. The other two counts charged the defendants with publishing an ironical caricature of the plaintiff, and that the apology was not *bona fide*, but that it was in reality a continuation of the libel. To both these counts the defendants pleaded “Not Guilty.” In defence against them it was pleaded that the caricature did not apply to the plaintiff but to the man Barnett, and that the apology, though humorously written, was really and truly an apology. The jury gave a verdict on the first count—10*l.* in addition to the 5*l.* already paid into court.

Considerable attention has been excited by a suit in the Court of Chancery, *Métairie v. Wiseman*, and others, the proceedings in which, after occupying the Vice-Chancellor daily for several weeks, were, on the 14th, terminated without any judgment. The suit was brought by the next of kin of Mathurin Carré, a French refugee, who came to this country in the year 1797, and, by the most penurious habits, amassed 10,000*l.* On his deathbed he disposed of 7000*l.* of his money, by a deed of gift, for the purpose of founding a girls' school in connexion with the Roman Catholic chapel of St. Aloysius in Somer's Town. Cardinal Wiseman is a nominal defendant in consequence of his ecclesiastical status. The allegations of the plaintiffs are that their relative, a weak old man in the last stage of a mortal disease, had fallen under the influence of Holdstock the priest of the above chapel, who, hearing of his condition and the amount of his property, had forced himself upon him, and induced, or rather compelled him, by the exercise of religious terrorism, to make the deed of gift

in question to the prejudice of his own kindred. After the case of the plaintiffs had been heard at very great length, the defendants, instead of entering upon their case, made an offer through their counsel to pay the fund in dispute into court. This proposal was agreed to, and thus the proceedings, for the present, at least, were brought to an abrupt conclusion.

At the Exeter Assizes, Mr. Baron Martin delivered sentence on *Robert Bird* and *Sarah Bird*, his wife, for the misdemeanour of which eight out of fourteen judges believe them to have been legally convicted on the second trial for cruelty to Mary Ann Parsons. Baron Martin was one of the minority who held that the conviction was bad; but he bowed to the decision of the majority, as if the case had gone to the House of Lords. However, as the case of the prisoners had never been heard, he offered to give them time to make affidavits. It was ultimately arranged that sentence should be passed immediately, and the prisoners left to state their case to the Secretary of State. They were sentenced to be imprisoned, with hard labour, for sixteen calendar months; which will be two years from the beginning of their present incarceration.

The case of *Miss Augusta Talbot*, which was the subject of a petition to the House of Commons, presented by Mr. Craven Berkeley on the 14th, came before the Court of Chancery on the 22nd, in the form of two petitions, the one on behalf of Miss Talbot, by the Rev. Dr. Doyle, her guardian and next friend; and the other by Mr. Berkeley, as her next friend. The object of both petitions [was the same, an arrangement for the future residence of the young lady. In the course of the proceedings, the Lord Chancellor said he had some conversation with the young lady at Lord Shrewsbury's last autumn, and she appeared to him to be a very intelligent person, and fully competent to exercise her own judgment. An order had been made, by which she was to be allowed to go with Lord and Lady Shrewsbury to the continent. He certainly was surprised afterwards to hear that she had, without any order of the court, betaken herself to a convent. He saw it stated that she had gone there with his consent, but there was no foundation for that statement. He first heard of her going to the convent from Mr. Berkeley, who applied to him in his private room in the House of Lords for a writ of *habeas corpus* to bring the young lady before him, which application he at once refused, thinking that an irregular and unnecessary course of proceeding in this young lady's case. Mr. Berkeley then left him, saying that he would present a petition on the subject to the House of Commons, which he (his Lordship) left him to do. The Lord Chancellor further said that he observed it was stated in Mr. Berkeley's petition that the young lady was a postulant in the convent, but he (the Lord Chancellor) had received a letter from her in which she stated that she was not a postulant, nor did she return to the convent with that view. It was finally arranged, that the further discussion on the petitions, should be taken on the 27th inst., and that in the meantime the young lady should be brought up from the convent at Taunton.

Thomas Drory, and Sarah Chesham, convicted of murder at the Chelmsford Assizes, were *Eexecuted* there on the 25th.

NARRATIVE OF ACCIDENT AND DISASTER.

A WHOLE family, with some friends, numbering altogether sixteen persons, were *Poisoned* lately at Bishop's Sutton, in Somerseshire, by eating some pancakes which had accidentally been mixed up with an ounce of white arsenic, sold by mistake for carbonate of soda, which was to have been used for lightening the pancakes. Medical assistance was obtained before it was too late, and fortunately no lives were lost.

A melancholy *Shipwreck* took place on the 6th, upon Goodwin Sands. The brig Mary White, of London, laden with coals, was driven upon the North Sand Head. A life-boat belonging to Broadstairs succeeded in reaching the vessel; and seven of the crew were got into the life-boat, but before the captain, a man, and a boy, could be

got on board, the boat broke adrift, leaving these, together with two of the boatmen, in the brig. The two boatmen immediately jumped overboard and swam towards the life-boat, which they reached in safety, but the captain, man, and boy continued in the vessel, which shortly after fell over on her side, and, it being impossible for the boat to get near the vessel again, they doubtless met with a watery grave, as the vessel soon afterwards went to pieces.

A painter, of the name of Collins, was *Killed* on the 12th at the Crystal Palace. While employed in painting the windows on the roof of the building, the board on which he was standing shifted; he lost his equilibrium, and, falling upon the glass work, his weight caused the frame to give way, when he fell on the top of the table standing on the floor with such force that the table was dashed to pieces. He died the same night.

Captain Hutchinson, of the Royal Engineers, superintendent of the Holyhead harbour works, was lately *Killed* by an extraordinary accident. A blast was fired containing two tons of powder; and though Captain Hutchinson had removed to a distance of at least half a mile, an immense block of stone fell upon him, striking him dead, in his wife's presence. A labourer suffered a fracture of his leg; while a lady's dress was torn to fragments by the concussion of the air.

A *Fatal Accident* has occurred at the Kirkstall station of the Leeds and Bradford Railway, from the incautiousness or error of two ladies. Mrs. Nichols and her sister Miss Leyland entered the station by a wrong gate, one which leads to the goods warehouse, and walked along the side of the warehouse towards the platform. While still on the roadway, an express-train approached, running upon the rails laid rather close to the warehouse wall. A guard and a porter called out to the ladies to warn them; but they considered themselves to be safe, as they were *outside* the rail, and continued to walk forward. Miss Leyland, who was nearest to the rails, was caught by the engine, whirled round, dragged forward twenty yards, and hurled upon the platform. The unfortunate lady was so dreadfully injured that she is not expected to recover.

A fearful explosion of *Fire-damp* took place in the Victoria Mine, at Nithill, near Paisley, early in the morning of Saturday the 15th, while sixty-three men and boys were in the mine. Unfortunately, the shock was so great that the gearing of the shaft and the sides of it were destroyed, and the shaft was filled with rubbish. Only two men at a time could work in clearing the ruins away, and meanwhile the relatives of the miners assembled and caused a most distressing scene. At midnight, so much of the debris had been removed that voices could be heard at the foot of the shaft. But it was not till four o'clock on Sunday afternoon that actual communication could be established with two men who still lived. Provisions were conveyed to them; at midnight, one man was extricated, in an exhausted state, and half an hour after the second was got out alive. These men said they had been working with two others in a part of the pit where the explosion was not very severe; they hastened towards the shaft, where there would be an in-draught of fresh air; but two perished by the way from the choke-damp. On Monday morning, the corpses of these sufferers were got out of the pit; and at that time no hope existed that any of the fifty-nine people missing had survived. It is stated by all the accounts that the ventilation of this mine was good; but it is believed that the calamity arose from some great sinking of the roof, or the penetration of some great cavity full of explosive gas.

SOCIAL, SANITARY, AND MUNICIPAL PROGRESS.

THE *Ragged Schools* erected in Lambeth at the cost of Mr. Beaufoy, as a monument to the memory of his wife, who lived a life of active good deeds among the poor, were opened on the 5th in the presence of a large assembly, over which Lord Ashley presided, and at which many clergymen were present. The schools have cost 10,000*l.*, and a sum of 4000*l.* has been invested by Mr.

Beaufoy in perpetual trust to maintain them in good repair. The building is of modern architecture, of two stories, with extensive wings, and so arranged that the boys and girls occupy opposite sides of the range: there is room for one thousand children.

On the same day, Lord Ashley presided at the annual meeting, in the Store Street Music-hall, of the supporters of the *Ragged Schools* in Phillips's Gardens, Upper Tottenham Place. Lord Ashley stated, that when he first undertook the advocacy of these schools, there were only five in the metropolis; there are now one hundred schools, at which 20,000 children are taught.

The annual general court of the *Society of Friends of Foreigners in Distress*, was held at the London Tavern, Mr. John Labouchere in the chair. The report which was read stated that the board had satisfaction in announcing that they had been able, in the past year, to continue their exertions with undiminished vigour. The number of persons benefited by the society during the year had been 1982, of whom 251 were new cases. About 180 foreigners had been enabled by the funds furnished to them by the society to return to their native countries. The average weekly number of applications to the board for assistance was 40, and the greater proportion of these persons were Europeans; Africans, Asians, and Americans had also, however, been among the recipients of the bounty of the society. The amount spent in affording casual relief was £144. 18s. 6d., and for passage money 144l. 6s. 8d. The total receipts on the year, including the balance of last year, was 3471l. 14s. 7d.; total expend., 3021l. 11s. 9d.; leaving a balance, in favour of the society, of 450l. In the course of his remarks, in comment upon the report, Mr. Labouchere expressed a hope that the wealthy foreigners who would visit London during the period of the great exhibition, would not fail to admit the great claims which this society had upon them.

The thirteenth anniversary meeting of the corporation of the *Seamen's Hospital* was held at the London Tavern on the 12th, the Earl of Hardwicke in the chair. There was a very numerous assemblage. The object of this charity is the maintenance of the Dreadnought Hospital, off Greenwich, for the reception of the sick and diseased seamen of all nations. From the report laid upon the table, it appeared that from the date of its establishment, its patients had numbered no fewer than 63,345; comprising—Englishmen, 37,252; Scotchmen, 7,736; Irishmen, 5,029; Frenchmen, 235; Germans, 841; Russians, 789; Prussians, 1,233; Dutchmen, 205; Danes, 849; Swedes and Norwegians, 2,018; Italians, 572; Portuguese, 455; Spaniards, 287; East Indians, 1,046; West Indians, 1,088; British Americans, 859; United States, 1,173; South Americans, 127; Africans, 374; Turks, 16; Greeks, 50; New Zealanders, 30; New South Wales, 31; South Sea Islanders, 182; Chinese, 38; born at sea, 131. These had been employed in the royal navy, 3,101; in the East India Company's service, 1,797; and in merchant vessels of different nations, 58,447. The number of patients admitted into hospital during the last year was, 2,095; out-patients, 1,528; total, 3,623. The chairman observed, that the public generally supposed that the institution required but little of their assistance, having large resources of its own; but the fact was that, although it had an income of 3,000l., it expended twice that sum, and the difference had to be made up by private contributions. They must therefore appeal to the public for assistance to enable them to carry out the objects they had in view. This appeal was well responded to, the subscriptions made during the evening having amounted to 814l.

A dinner in aid of the funds of the *Royal Infirmary for Consumption* took place on the 13th, and was presided over by Mr. Hankey, jun., Deputy-Governor of the Bank of England. About 70 gentlemen assembled on the occasion, and subscriptions to the amount of 400l. and upwards were announced by the treasurer. From the report it appears that the charity, which has been established 36 years, and is the oldest institution of the kind in London, has during its existence administered relief to 36,978 out and 486 in patients, the annual number of cases treated being more than 1000.

The United States frigate St. Lawrence, of fifty guns, arrived at Southampton on the 12th, freighted with

1000 tons of packages forming the contribution of the Americans to the *Great Industrial Show*. The freight was so much larger than was expected, that all the armament of the St. Lawrence, save only the guns on her upper spar deck, had to be taken out.

Among the things which have arrived at the doors of the Great Exhibition were the whole of the parts of the celebrated hydraulic press by which the tubes of the Britannia Railway Bridge were lifted to their present situation. Some detached portions of this enormous apparatus weigh no less than fifteen tons.

The Great Northern Railway has undertaken to lay down two hundred yards of specimen permanent railway, embracing all the latest improvements of construction and apparatus, for the trial of the troop of locomotive engines which will be exhibited. The work is already begun.

The Queen will exhibit the beautiful carpet worked for her by a hundred ladies of Great Britain. It is said also that her Majesty will confide the celebrated Koh-i-noor diamond to the custody of the commissioners for exhibition.

The meeting of the *British Association* at Ipswich is to commence on Wednesday, July the 2nd. The officers selected by the London council are: President—Professor Airy, Astronomer Royal. Vice-Presidents—The Bishop of Norwich, Professor Henslow, Professor Sedgwick, Sir J. P. Boileau, Bart., Lord Rendlesham, M.P., Sir W. F. F. Middleton, Bart., J. C. Cobbold, Esq., M.P., T. B. Western, Esq. Treasurer—J. B. Alexander, Esq. Local Secretaries—C. May, Esq., W. D. Sims, Esq., G. A. Biddell, Esq., G. Ransome, Esq. The local secretaries have already received the names of several hundred intending visitors, amongst whom are Lucien Buonaparte, Prince of Canino; Sir R. Murchison, Sir H. de la Beche, Sir W. Jardine, Sir C. Lyell, Sir D. Brewster; Professors Daubeny, Silliman (of America), Owen, Ansted, and the celebrated naturalist, M. Lorrillier, a relative of the late Baron Cuvier.

PERSONAL NARRATIVE.

THE Queen held her second *Levee* of the season, at Buckingham Palace, on the 6th. Her Majesty was dressed in deep mourning for the Princess Elize Hohenlohe Langenbourg; intelligence of whose death she received on the preceding day. Mr. Alfred Tennyson was presented, on his appointment to be Poet Laureate. A deputation of ladies, consisting of the Misses Lawrance, Marshall, Cubitt, Witten, Simpson, and Fuller, had an audience, to deliver to the Queen an address on presenting a carpet executed in needlework by 100 ladies of Great Britain.

The Royal Family left Buckingham Palace for Osborne, Isle of Wight, on the 8th.

The Queen, Prince Albert, and the royal family, returned from Osborne to Buckingham Palace on the 25th.

Her Majesty has presented the sum of 250 guineas to the new Asylum, for Infant Orphans, Stamford Hill, in order to secure the Prince of Wales the right of presentation to one bed for life.

Prince Albert has become one of the patrons of the Royal National Institution for the Preservation of Life from Shipwreck.

Prince Albert has manifested the deep interest which he feels in the operations of the Society for improving the Condition of the Working Classes by engaging to build, at his own expense, an *Exhibition Model House*, for four families, and to place the same in the stable-yard at the west end of the cavalry barracks, Hyde Park, immediately opposite the Exhibition building. The intended house is to be of hollow brick, with fire-proof floors and flat roof; showing the applicability of these important principles to houses of but very moderate dimensions.

Captain Ross Donnelly Mangles, M.P. for Guildford, a Director of the East India Company, has lately placed at the disposal of the Governors of St. George's Hospital an *Assistant-Surgionship* in the East India Company's service, for presentation to the most deserving pupil of the Hospital.

The Earl of Eglinton and Winton has been installed as *Lord Rector* of Marischal College and University, Aberdeen.

Lord Edward Russell has been appointed to the command of the *Vengeance*, now being refitted for service at Portsmouth, and intended for the Mediterranean station.

Obituary of Notable Persons.

JOANNA BAILLIE, a poet whose fame is indelibly inscribed on the annals of our literature, died at her house at Hampstead on the 24th ult., in the eighty-ninth year of her age, having been born in the year 1762, in the manse of Bothwell, near Glasgow, of which place her father was minister. Her elder sister, Miss Agnes Baillie, survives her, at the age of ninety-two.

ALDERMAN SIR JOHN PIRIE, BART., died on the 28th ult., at his residence, Champion Hill, Surrey.

The HON. MISS DE ROS, daughter of Lord and Lady De Ros, and niece to the Duke of Richmond, died on the 21st ult., after a short illness, in the twenty-fourth year of her age.

SIR W. OWEN BARLOW, BART., was seized with sudden illness at the Reform Club, on the 24th ult., after dinner, and was conveyed home to his chambers in the Temple, where he died early the next morning. He was in his seventy-sixth year.

The DOYAGER COUNTESS OF CHARLEVILLE died at her residence, No. 14, Cavendish Square, on the 25th ult., after a long and painful illness, in her eighty-ninth year.

The REV. HENRY LORD BERNERS died at his seat, Kirby Cane, Norfolk, on the 26th ult., in the eighty-ninth year of his age.

The EARL OF HARRINGTON died on the 3rd inst., at Brighton, after a short illness, in his seventy-first year.

M. GEORGE BRENTANO, the oldest banker at Frankfort-on-the-

Maine, died lately in that city, aged eighty-eight. He was brother of two persons well known in the world of letters, M. Clement Brentano and the Countess Bettina d'Armin, the correspondent of Goethe.

LORD DE LISLE AND DUDLEY died on the 4th inst., at the family seat, Penrhyn, near Tunbridge, in his fifty-first year.

REAR-ADMIRAL COLIN CAMPBELL died on the 3rd inst., near Uxbridge, in the sixty-fourth year of his age. He had seen considerable service afloat, and commanded the *Minstrel* sloop at the capture of a convoy at Palamos in 1810. He had been a commissioned officer forty-five years.

The COUNTESS OF ATHLONE died on the 4th inst., at her residence in South Street.

SIR ALEXANDER HOOD, BART., of Wootton House, Somerset, and member for the Western Division of that county, died in London, on the 7th inst., in his fifty-eighth year.

MARIA, COUNTESS DOWAGER OF SEFTON, died in Arlington Street, on the 9th inst., in her eighty-first year.

MRS. CHARROTT died on the 9th inst., at Stoke, Guildford, in her ninety-fourth year.

SIR EDMUND WALLER, BART., died on the 9th inst., after a long illness, at Brighton, in the fifty-fifth year of his age.

The EARL OF ALBEMARLE died on the 15th inst., in his fifty-seventh year.

The EARL OF MEATH died on the 15th inst., at Great Malvern, in his eightieth year.

DR. JAMES ALLAN, Deputy Medical Inspector of Hospitals and Fleets, in commission at the Royal Naval Hospital at Haslar, died on the 18th inst., aged fifty-eight.

PROFESSOR OERSTED, the well-known Danish natural philosopher, died at Copenhagen, on the 9th inst., in his seventy-fourth year.

SIR STAFFORD HENRY NORTHCOOTE, BART., died at his seat, Pynes, in Devonshire, on the 17th inst., in his eighty-ninth year.

The MARCHESS OF LANSDOWNE died at Bowood Park, on the 24th, after a severe illness.

COLONIES AND DEPENDENCIES.

THE interest of all other colonial intelligence is absorbed by the sudden breaking out of another Caffre war at the Cape. This is the fifth similar outbreak since we had possession of this miserable dependency, and these five revolts have had to be suppressed at a cost far more than we are likely to realise by the nett revenue of the settlement for the whole of the next century. People naturally shake their heads at such a balance-sheet as that! Nor is it quite clear that the present rebellion and its immediate predecessor have not, in a great degree, been provoked by our own indiscreet administration. Admitted ignorance of Caffre habits has certainly been evinced in the policy adopted to the savages; and in dealing with the original Dutch settlers (a class that may be said in some respects to resemble the Orangemen of Ireland), we have so managed matters as to render them thoroughly indifferent, if not disaffected, to our rule. It will be well to inquire into these matters when the present war shall have been brought to a close, and the bill of charges for it comes to be discussed.

The news from *India* by the overland mail which left Bombay on the 17th February are unimportant.—

In the British territory, tranquillity prevails. Lord Dalhousie is occupied with education in the Pnnjaub, and meets with warm and efficient support from the inhabitants. It is stated that 450 miles of canals are now under construction in that province. The Bombay journals state that the fort of Dharoor, which revolted against the Nizam, had been reduced by a British contingent under Brigadier Beaton; and they report that a large slice of the Nizam's dominions is about to be ceded in satisfaction of the 600,000*l.* due to us for the pay of our contingent.

The city of Rangoon, in Burmah, was almost wholly destroyed by fire on the 28th of December. A man engaged in boiling some oil went out to see a Burmese ship-of-war just then arrived in harbour; he forgot his charge, the oil boiled over, and the house was in a moment in flames. The fire spread instantly through the streets, the bulk of the houses being of wood. Several ships in the harbour were burnt to the water's edge. The property destroyed is valued at 300,000*l.*

The *West India Mail* brings accounts from the different colonies down to the end of last month. In *Jamaica* the cholera had ceased to exist on the south side of the island, but on the northern shores and in all the seaport towns it continued to add fresh victims, daily to swell the catalogue of death; it even went up the hills of St. James's as far as the military garrison of Maroon town, where several were attacked. In some

of the rural districts where the epidemic had committed great ravages it was feared that the crops (which are very fine) would not be cut down in time; and, therefore, a considerable deficiency of sugar is anticipated. An election took place for a member of Assembly for the parish of Portland on the 24th ult., when a brown man named Christopher Walters, who has gained a vast influence over the constituency, was elected. Mr. Walters is a shoemaker, and known to the political world as the "political cobbler." He was elected by a majority, over two opponents, far exceeding the number of votes polled by either of them.

In *British Guiana*, the session of the Combined Court opened on the 20th with a speech from Governor Barkly, which had given much satisfaction in the colony. So flourishing were the finances that his Excellency had recommended to the Court a bold and comprehensive measure for the reduction of those burdens which press most heavily on the poorer classes of society. The speech suggested to the Court an immediate reduction in taxation to the extent of 200,000 dollars, which it was thought could be effected without danger. The colony was very healthy, and the weather had been favourable to the planters. The accounts from Trinidad and the other islands contain nothing remarkable.

The accounts from the *Cape of Good Hope* are of a painful nature. Another Caffre war has begun. It will be remembered that Sandilli, the great Caffre chief, was lately deposed by Sir Harry Smith, in consequence of his absence from the assembly of chiefs summoned

by the Governor at William's Town, and that Sir Harry Smith had returned to Cape Town. News soon came that Sandilli was preparing to contest the reality of his deposition. Sir Harry Smith hastened rapidly back to King William's Town, in the centre of British Caffraria. On the 19th December, the T'Slambie chiefs assembled at Fort Murray, on the summons of Mr. McLean, the Commissioner of the T'Slambie tribes. The insincerity of the most influential men was then very apparent: the capture of Sandilli was politely declined by all, as an attempt so impossible for the prowess of any of them, as to be amusing to think of. At a meeting of the Gaikas, held on the same day by the Governor, at Fort Cox, Sutu, the mother of Sandilli, the "great widow" of Gaika, was appointed chief ruler of the tribe, in the place of Sandilli. In the three days following this meeting, information more and more definite was received through the Caffre Police, of the lurking-place in which Sandilli was concealed. It was resolved to attempt a sudden blow by arresting him. Colonel Mackinnon was to march from Fort Cox up the banks of the Keiskemmas with 600 troops, direct on Sandilli, while Lieutenant Eyre was to cut him off from retreat into the strongholds of the Gaika tribe in the Anatola Mountains. Colonel Mackinnon started on the 24th December; his vanguard being ninety-two of the Caffre Police before mentioned. While they were in a gorge, which shut in the swift river so closely that our men could only march in single file, a deadly fire was poured in upon every part of the force except the Caffre Police. It was with extreme difficulty that the defile was forced, after a disastrous loss of officers and men killed and wounded. On the following day the whole of the Caffre Police deserted, with their horses and arms, to the enemy. Of course the expedition totally failed of its object against Sandilli: Colonel Mackinnon led his men by a long compass round to Fort White, where he arrived on the 25th December; and he immediately sent orders to Lieutenant-Colonel Eyre to fall back with his intercepting force on William's Town. As soon as the Gaikas were in the open field, they hemmed in Sir Harry Smith at Fort Cox, investing his hundreds of men with more than as many thousands. Colonel Somerset, at Fort Hare, sent a body to his relief, which was driven back. He himself set out on the 29th, in much greater strength, to force the passage. The Caffres attacked him in immense numbers, and with most determined courage. They were well armed with guns and spears. After four hours of hard fighting, in the early part of which a small piece of artillery was used with great effect, but the end of which was waged hand to hand, Colonel Somerset was compelled to withdraw from the contest, to abandon the piece of artillery, and to retire to Fort Hare, whence he started. Lieutenant Melvin and Lieutenant and Adjutant Gordon, of the Ninety-first Regiment, were killed; and Ensign Borthwick, of the Ninety-first, was wounded. About twenty privates fell, and many more were wounded. The struggle, thus disastrously commenced in two or three set engagements, was quickly carried on all along the Caffre frontier. The military villages of Woburn, Auckland, and Joannasburg, were attacked; their male inhabitants, to the number of seventy, butchered; and their women and children carried off, or turned adrift nearly naked, to reach the Forts as they best could. As the attempt by Colonel Somerset to communicate with Sir Harry Smith was so signally defeated, some anxiety was felt for Sir Harry in his isolated position. On the 31st, however, he arrived safely at King William's Town. Wearing the cap of a trooper to escape being made a

target, he put himself at the head of 250 men, and dashed through the masses of Caffres without any casualty. He had left a force at Fort Cox, well provisioned, and fully sufficient in numbers to maintain themselves till reliefs could be brought up.

On the 3d of January, a force of Caffres attacked Fort White, which is the fort nearest to King William's Town—about twenty miles from it. Two of Sandilli's brothers commanded. The small garrison under Captain Mansergh reserved their fire till the Caffres were on the breastworks, and then poured in a charge that killed twenty Caffres on the spot, and caused a retreat.

On the 7th of January, the Caffre chief Hermanus, who had received from our government a large grant of territory on the Blinkwater, in the district of Albany, to the North of Fort Beaufort, gathered all his dependents, Caffre and Hottentot, and attacked Fort Beaufort. But friendly warning of the attack had been received, and the defence was most successfully waged. The attacking force was defeated, and totally dispersed. Hermanus himself was slain; and his body was carried into the fort and placed in the middle of the square with the British flag over it, an example to all Hottentot beholders. Sir Harry Smith followed up this success of one of his outposts, with a proclamation declaring that the Crown lands granted to Hermanus had become forfeited by his treachery; that "the successors of Hermanus, and all their rebellious people, are for ever expelled from the limits of the colony"; and that all men of this "wicked location," seen within the colony, are to be regarded as enemies and dealt with accordingly.

On the 21st of January, the most severe action that had occurred was fought between 6000 Caffre besiegers of Fort Hare, with its adjacent Fingo village of Alice, and the garrison of that outpost—about as many hundreds—under Major Somerset. Fort Hare lies beyond Fort White, from King William's Town. This attack was most determined: the Caffres came on in regular divisions of columns, and steadily braved a fire from two twenty-four pounders in the embrasures of the fort. It was indeed the fire of these formidable pieces of ordnance that broke and disorganised the attack. Profiting by the havoc and confusion they caused, the garrison sallied with concentration and bravery, and, after a stubborn hand-to-hand conflict, compelled the Caffres to draw off. Upwards of a hundred Caffres were left dead on the ground. The Fingoes, a native race, formerly held in bondage by the Caffres, from which they were delivered in the war of 1836 and brought within the colony, and who have ever since been friendly to the British against the aggressive Caffres, behaved with remarkable courage, and greatly contributed to the success. An affair occurred to the West of King William's Town, on the 24th of January, in which a small party of Fingoes, under British command, defeated a much larger body of Seyolo's Caffres. Sir Harry Smith issued a general order praising the valour of this body of "intrepid Fingoes" for the mode in which they drove off the party of "bullying Caffres."

The accounts are not clear as to the number of troops yet arrived at King William's Town. Their number appears to be at least 1600; and two pieces of field artillery have arrived. The Burgher volunteers and Native allies would seem to raise the whole force at Sir Harry Smith's command to about 6000 men. It was understood that he purposed to march on Fort White, and into the heart of Sandilli's territory, about the end of January; in hopes that Sandilli would make a stand, and enable him to bring the contest to a decisive termination.

NARRATIVE OF FOREIGN EVENTS.

ANOTHER crisis in Prussian affairs moves only laughter. Frederick William turning off poor Manteuffel, again talking big, and threatening Austria, no one treats but as a joke; and the little princes that formerly backed up Austria, and got snubbed for their pains, again plucking up a spirit, and manifesting, in the hope of snatching something from the fray, adds not a little to the enjoyment of it. But something better than a joke is the alarm and depression of Austria. This appears to be real. Schwartzberg could laugh at Prussia

heartily enough; but at the bug-a-boo of a National Parliament, again revived by the small kings and not discountenanced by the greater, the conscience-stricken bully turns ill and pale, and talks of calling in Metternich to prescribe for him. So, what with the old Doctor in Austria, and the old Duke in our attempt at a crisis here, the world would seem hardly yet to have lost faith in the old principles and virtues of the pigtail school of politicians.

A new chance seems to have arisen out of chaos for Louis Napoleon. The Legitimists, offended with the Orleanists for refusing to coalesce with a view to a monarchy, are disposed to consent to a prolongation of the presidential term of power; and the fact of this promise having been given is said to account for Louis Napoleon's refusal of the terms on which Odillon Barrot had alone consented to return to power. The stipulations of the ex-Orleanist deputy are worth mentioning, because they illustrate remarkably the present tendencies of opinion in France. They were, that the President should pledge himself to leave office quietly, in case the necessity for his doing so should arise; in return for which M. Barrot would pledge himself to use every exertion to avert that necessity, by obtaining a prolongation of the President's term of power. In other words, there is not a practical statesman now in France who does not see that the sole chance of the country lies in adhering loyally to the republic. It is the only good and healthy sign, amid many miserable and conflicting portents of evil and disaster.

The most remarkable piece of intelligence from France is the motion made by M. Creton in the assembly for repealing the laws of exile against the family of the Bourbons, and the stormy debate to which it gave rise on the 1st inst. M. Berryer opposed the motion, on the principle that the Due de Chambord is not an exiled Frenchman, but an extruded King of France; that a sovereign could accept no permission to reënter his own hereditary dominions. M. Thiers and M. Piscatory supported the motion. M. Royer, the Minister of Justice, distinctly avowed that the Government was favorable to the principle of the bill, but deemed the present moment inopportune for enacting it. The discussion proceeded quietly, till it was inflamed by M. Dufaïsse, representative for the Dordogne, one of the members of the Mountain. M. Dufaïsse declared that the laws of proscription are just, and ought to be maintained. "The Revolution," he said, "cannot ask pardon of the dynasties it has justly upset. Have the family of Orleans laid aside the claims of their birth? Have they rendered homage to the sovereignty of the nation? Do not the descendants of St. Louis continually dispute the independence and the conquests of the people? You tell us royalty never dies: we reply, nor does its punishment. If the principle of sovereignty is eternal, so shall its punishment be eternal. This is but logic. The law ought to chastise the voluntary representatives, the willing heirs, of a principle which the people have abolished. Unhappy princes! I mistrust your tenderness." M. Dufaïsse by inference vindicated the decapitation of Louis the Sixteenth, and then exclaimed, in fierce warning to the Mountain, "The men of old who voted against the death of Louis the Sixteenth meditated a return to royalty." This defiance of the Legitimists and justification of regicide raised a storm among the Right. Members contended with fierce violence to occupy the tribune and denounce such detestable doctrines. M. Berryer, trembling and pale with passion, declared that he and his party considered themselves as not free agents in deliberation, while such sentiments were uttered from the tribune. He proposed to adjourn the discussion for six months; and though this course was strenuously opposed by M. Thiers and his party, it was carried. An eye-witness of the scene says:—"The pale head, compressed lips, intense expression, and resolute accent of the young lawyer of the Mountain, reminded the audience, not without a shudder, of such a thoroughbred Jacobin of 1793 as St. Just, when, nothing daunted by the fists shaken in his face and the menaces threatened around him, he recalled to mind that the grandfather of the princes whose banishment they wanted to repeal, had himself voted the King's death."

The Minister of the Interior has laid before the Committee charged with examining the different propositions for abrogating or revising the election-law of May 1850, a summary of the effect of that law on the franchise. The electors inscribed on the 31st March 1850, in execution of the law of 15th March 1849, were 9,618,057; those inscribed on the lists in execution of the law of 15th May were 6,809,281—a diminution of thirty per cent; those inscribed on the lists closed in September last (those for the Isle de Vilaine excepted) are 6,711,186.

The Professors of the College of France have passed a vote of censure on their colleague M. Michelet, the Professor of History, on the ground that his lectures are prejudicial to the young students in a moral and political point of view. Seventeen out of twenty-one professors were in favour of the vote. It was also decided that the procès-verbal of the deliberations of the Professors should be transmitted to the Minister for his approval.

The affairs of Germany do not apparently tend to any settlement. The differences between Austria and Prussia are as great as ever. The Berlin papers say, that in a Cabinet Council held on the 11th inst., a memorandum of the contested points between these two powers was drawn up, which stated that Prussia neither directly nor indirectly supported, at the Dresden Conference, the demand of Austria for the admission into the Confederation of all her provinces; and that Prussia would not herself enter the Confederation with her own non-German provinces. It is said that the old Frankfurt Diet will be revived.

The temporary building in which the Upper Chamber of the Prussian Parliament assemblies, was destroyed by fire on the night of the 10th; the archives, however, were preserved.

The Papal States are infested by banditti, who scour the country in great numbers in spite of the combined forces of the Pope and the Emperor of Austria. On the 16th and 17th of February, flying columns of gendarmes and infantry were engaged in hotly pursuing a band of freebooters over the mountains of Casola, Valsenio, and Monte Maggiore. Some skirmishing took place, in which two Papal soldiers were killed. The brigands then attempted to force their way over the Tuscan frontier, by Modigliana and Marradi, but were prevented by the Austrian and Papal troops. The last account left the hostile parties still engaged in desultory conflict on the mountains. On the 18th, eight men were condemned to death by a court-martial, and shot, for rapine and arson at Bologna. Accounts from that city represent the noted brigand chief, the *Passatore*, as still holding his mountain positions against the combined efforts of the Austrian and Papal troops. On the 23rd, near Casola Valsenio, the dead body of a brigand, who had fallen in one of the recent skirmishes, was discovered, and the soldiers were then following the bloody track of another wounded man. The extermination of these bands appears to be a most hopeless affair, since their organisation has a decidedly political character, and is described as similar to that of the *Chouans* in the revolt of La Vendée. Whilst not a recruit can be found to swell the ranks of the Papal army, the secret agents of the brigands find no difficulty whatever in enrolling men for the service of the *Passatore*, and, in order to prevent treachery, the greater part of these men are unacquainted with each other, and only meet at a general rendezvous when some important expedition is decided on, dispersing again, and returning to their customary avocations as soon as it is completed. The brigands receive regular pay, whether in action or at

their own homes. No enroller is allowed to enlist more than four men, who, after having been tried in action for some time, become enrollers in their turn, each of them enlisting four more, and bringing them to the rendezvous until the chain stretches over the whole country.

The accounts from *Sicily* are of a gloomy character. At Palermo and Messina, the government had ordered the people to begay during the Carnival. The earriages with masks were protected on either side by soldiers and mobs of boys employed to follow, shouting "Long live the King." The people, however, would not join in the forced festivities, although every effort was made to induce them to do so. The whole island remains in a state of siege; after nine o'clock every one is challenged by the military guard. The additional taxes weigh heavily on the people, who are described as bent to the earth by fear and made desperate by oppression.

There have been serious disturbances in *Sweden* and *Norway*. On the 14th of February, the students of Upsal University assembled to the number of 400 or 500, and paraded the streets of Stockholm, and were not dispersed till a collision took place between them and the police, a result which greatly exasperated the body of the people. Next day the same scenes were renewed on a larger scale, and on this occasion the police having endeavoured to disperse a crowd of 1000 or 1500 people, was repulsed by showers of stones and other missiles. The troops were called out, and squadrons of cavalry soon cleared the streets. Thirty of the rioters were arrested. The regency instituted to act in the absence of the king at the Norwegian Storting published a proclamation forbidding all assemblages of persons in the streets. At the same time that these riots were taking place at Stockholm, disturbances of a serious character were also occurring in the province of Drontheim, in Norway. The socialists and democrats in the district of Stordal and the town of Levanger rose up against the authorities who had imprisoned one of their leaders, and the insurrection continued up to the date of the last accounts.

The intelligence from *New York* is to the 12th inst.—On the 14th of February a serious riot occurred at Boston in connexion with the Fugitive Slave Law. A mob, irritated by the arrest of a coloured man as a fugitive slave, surrounded the Court-house, seized the prisoner, carried him forcibly away, and afterwards secured his retreat so speedily that all attempts at recapture proved futile. Subsequently, in the Senate, Mr. Clay moved a resolution calling on the President for information in regard to this infraction of the law. On the 20th the President responded, addressing to the Senate a message, expressing his determination to enforce the law, and proposing measures for the purpose; such as empowering the Executive to call out volunteer state troops in aid of the authorities, without a previous proclamation, as now required, &c. After some sharp and acrimonious debates the message was referred to the Committee on Judiciary to report a bill in accordance with its suggestions.

Congress, on the 4th instant, adjourned until the new session in December next, after transacting a variety of important business.

On the 3rd in the House of Representatives, Mr. McClelland, of Illinois, moved to take up the Senate resolution, requesting the President to authorise one of the United States vessels in the Mediterranean to carry Kossuth and his companions to the United States. The resolution was passed by a large majority. On the same night there was one of those *razes* which are not uncommon in the American legislature. An American paper describes it thus: "The attention of the house was arrested by much confusion and shuffling among a crowd outside the bar, near the main entrance. 'A fight,' was the cry, and members and lobby loungers ran in that direction. All was excitement. The Speaker rapped with his hammer, calling loudly upon gentlemen to take their seats, and for the Serjeant-at-Arms. It appeared, that Messrs. Clingham and Stanley had been

exchanging sharp words, and were coming to brisk blows, but were prevented from getting hurt. The tempest occupied only a few moments."

The Reverend John J. M'Bride was recently indicted, in North Carolina, for presenting a little slave girl with a copy of the Ten Commandments. He was found guilty; and his sentence was "to stand one hour in the stocks, receive thirty lashes on the bare back, and be imprisoned one year in the common gaol."

On the 24th ult. a terrible tornado nearly destroyed the town of Fayetteville, Tennessee.

A letter from *San Francisco*, dated in December last, and giving a graphic description of that city, has been published. We extract some passages:—The extensive, wealthy, and populous city of San Francisco, the most important and active commercial port in the Pacific, bears in its very aspect the stamp of sudden growth. It has been "knocked up" in a hurry. Improvements take place so rapidly as to strike even a resident with amazement, as he returns to his home after a fortnight's absence. The barren waste on which, but two years ago, half a dozen mud hovels could scarcely be counted, is now laid out into crowded streets, enumbered by piles of merchandise and teeming with life. Splendid brick-buildings, worthy of a site in the fashionable squares of London, large framed houses, modest wooden shanties, which the kick of a protectionist would overturn, extensive iron warehouses, all stand side by side, "pèle-mêle," forming long rows, presenting to the eye of a stranger a strange and varied aspect. Parallel wharfs built upon piles (one of them over 2300 feet in length), have been driven into the waters of the bay, so that the largest ships can lay along side of them: these wharfs have again been connected by streets at right angles, all on piles, and the blocks thus formed are rapidly filling up by the erection upon them of large houses, stores, hotels, &c., and by a considerable number of ships that have been stranded or moored, deprived of their masts, and housed over to serve as deposits for merchandise. Beyond, and touching this part of the town, built boldly upon the waters, is the thick close forest of masts and rigging belonging to the large fleet of vessels anchored in the port. Dozens of steamers of all sizes, shapes, and descriptions, daily plough the waters of the bay and of the rivers, conveying passengers and goods to and from the cities of the interior. Amongst the most striking features of the city are the restaurants and gambling-houses which exist in immense numbers. The whole population take their meals at restaurants; you have them French, German, English, Italian, American, and Chinese; the houses, furniture, proprietors, servants, and utensils of the latter being importations from the Celestial empire. With regard to the gambling-houses, one side of the Piazza is occupied by a long row of splendid buildings, the upper stories of which are devoted to billiard and refreshment rooms; the basements form immense saloons, most splendidly lighted and decorated with mirrors and paintings, and furnished with an orchestra, a bar for the sale of liquors, and a number of small tables; here, and in the numerous similar establishments, situated in all parts of the town, monte, pharo, roulette, and all kinds of games are publicly played day and night. Miners, after months of privation and successful toil, lose their heavy bags of gold dust upon a single card; the labourers, boatmen, teamsters, &c., go to lose or increase their earnings; the desperate to retrieve, or sink deeper into their difficulties. You may imagine what the gains of the proprietors must be. One of these houses, worth above 100,000 dols., has been built for the third time after having been destroyed twice by fire, by a man and his wife who came from Sydney without a cent.; the woman has made the money by rolling a large ball covered with numbers, the one turning uppermost being the winner. Scarcely a week passes without some dispute, when revolvers and bowie-knives are immediately produced and some one is killed. The courts do not interfere; the dead man is buried, and the survivors continue their game as eagerly as ever.

Sacramento, Stockton, Marysville, are all San Franciscos on a smaller scale; the same gambling, vices, habits, speculations, improvements and features in every

respect, with a more general practice of carrying revolvers and consequently more frequent rows and murders.

A dreadful massacre of American gold-diggers by the Indians has been perpetrated near Rattlesnake Creek.

The men, seventy-two in number, were working in a chasm, and had stacked their arms, not apprehending any danger. The Indians came upon them by stealth, and having secured their arms, deliberately murdered them one by one.

NARRATIVE OF LITERATURE AND ART.

OF all the questions likely to be endangered by any temporary exile of the Liberal party from power, that of the University Commission would probably suffer most. All through the recent crisis, in the midst of tottering and tumbling Cabinets, the Oxford Commissioners continued to meet, as they meet still, "at the official residence of the First Lord of the Treasury;" and we hear on good authority that the result of their inquiries hitherto has greatly exceeded expectation, in the character and amount of information collected. But who can doubt that one of the first acts of a "Conservative" Ministry would have been to cancel this Commission, or at least to render it as inoperative and unproductive as possible? Among the various lines of separation between the great parties of politicians which the occurrences of the last twenty years have tended to efface, we cannot count Education. There the difference is still broadly and deeply marked; and by the kind of resistance offered to this University inquiry, as well as by the continued and discreditable opposition to the Privy Council Committee, its intensity and virulence may be understood. A curious exemplification of this was made public the other day. The Commission has now been in existence nearly a year; and though some of the Colleges were restive at first in reply to the demand for information, the surrender of All Souls carried with it all the rest, and the only difficulty now likely to arise in putting the inquiry to practical use, will turn on the extraordinary mass of evidence collected, and certainly not on any lack of it. Matters standing thus, the Commission received the other day from the Heads of Houses and Proctors, in answer to a civil and deferential request for assistance and information dated five months ago, a peremptory refusal of all information, and a legal opinion to the effect that the Commission was unlawful, that the Crown had no authority to issue it, and that the University were justified in disobeying it. Of course this piece of insolence will be disregarded; but it shows what this body would do if it dared, and is the unanswerable reply to those affected friends of University Reform who would have left it to be accomplished by the University Authorities.

The publishers have resumed something of their old activity during the past month, and in general literature several books well worthy of mention have appeared.

The first volume of the *Stones of Venice*, by Mr. Ruskin, is a re-assertion and illustration of the principles of his former work on architecture by appeal to the buildings of the great city of the Italian republics. Mr. Mariotti's *Italy* in 1848 is a narrative of the eventful year of the Sardinian struggle against Austria, which is as little likely to please the party opposed to Italian independence, as to satisfy those who are in favour of it. The second volume of Mr. Leone Levi's *Commercial Law* carries out with undiminished care and labour his project of a comparison of the principles and administration of all the various commercial laws of foreign countries with those of the mercantile laws of Great Britain, with ultimate regard to his great and generous conception of the possibility of establishing a national and international code of commerce among all civilised countries. Mr. Muscutt has published a brief but useful survey of the *History of Church Laws in England*; Sir Henry de la Beche has expanded his little volume on "How to observe" geological facts, into a massive survey of the results of modern researches in geology, with the title of the *Geological Observer*; Mr. Hazlitt has compiled a useful *Classical Gazetteer* for schools; and Mr. Thomas Wright has collected, into two very interesting volumes, *Narratives of Sorcery and Magic*, illustrative of the history of superstitious belief over a wide range of times and countries.

To the department of biography, Mr. Baillie Frazer has contributed *A Military Memoir of Lt. Col. Skinner*, a half-caste officer of great celebrity in the modern history of Indian conquests; Mr. R. P. Gillies has sent forth three volumes of autobiographical reminiscences, under the title of the *Literary Veteran*; and Mr. Hepworth Dixon has written a new *Life of William Penn* from materials not accessible to the great quaker's former biographers.

Several works of imagination have also been given to the world, and among them more novels than it would be profitable to recount. But exception should be made for Mr. R. H. Horne's *Dreamer and Worker*, which is meant to refute the common fallacy that thought and work are separate things, and that the thinker does not take practical part in the vigorous business of life; for Mr. Howitt's *Madam Dorrington*, a country story well

suited to the display of its author's descriptive powers; for clever and well told *Tales and Traditions of Hungary*, by Francis and Theresa Pulzsky; and for the republication (from *Frazer's Magazine*), of a novel by the author of *Alton Locke*, of which the object is to preach what is called Christian Socialism. In poetry three works deserving mention have appeared. The first, a poem on the scenery and associations of the Isle of Wight, called the *Fair Island*, by Mr. Edmund Peel; the second, a collection of *Hartley Coleridge's Poems*, with a memoir by his brother of that unfortunate man of genius; and the third, Mr. Charles Knight's first volume of his (truly called) *National Edition of Shakespeare*.

Several books of travels have appeared—on *Cuba*, on *Mexico*, on the *Pacific*, on the *Nile*, on *Goa* and the *Blue Mountains*; and we have had *Notes on North America*, *Agricultural, Economical, and Social*, from the very competent and impartial pen of Mr. James Johnston, one of the scientific Readers in the University of Durham.

Two not unimportant contributions to English history claim a concluding word. Mr. M. A. Lower has translated for the first time the often quoted *Chronicle of Battel Abbey*, appending excellent notes and illustrations; and the Rev. J. Forshall has printed and published, also for the first time, that *Remonstrance against Romish Corruptions in the Church, addressed to the People and Parliament of England* as long ago as the eighteenth year of Richard the Second's reign; which English historians have occasionally, but only slightly referred to, in evidence of the views of the Wyclifites on ecclesiastical doctrine. Nothing could be more timely than the appearance of this tract. It turns out to have a far wider range than that hitherto attributed to it. It is not only a remarkable and satisfactory illustration of the state of our vernacular language at the early period when it was written, but also of the state and spirit of English feeling five centuries ago. It is a contemptuous rejection of the Papal pretensions, and a noble assertion of the supremacy of the Royal authority, and of the spiritual as well as temporal independence of the realm.

Mr. Macready took his *Final Leave of the Stage* on Wednesday the 26th of February. Drury-lane Theatre was the scene of this memorable event. He performed

the character of Macbeth to an overflowing audience, which included many of the most distinguished persons of the day in the walks of literature, art, and fashion. At the end of the play, Mr. Macready came forward in his ordinary attire and delivered the following address:—"My last theatrical part is played, and, in accordance with long established usage, I appear once more before you. Even if I were without precedent for the discharge of this act of duty, it is one which my own feelings would irresistibly urge upon me; for, as I look back on my long professional career, I see in it but one continuous record of indulgence and support extended to me, cheering me in my onward progress, and upholding me in most trying emergencies. I have therefore been desirous of offering you my parting acknowledgments for the partial kindness with which my humble efforts have uniformly been received, and for a life made happier by your favour. The distance of five-and-thirty years has not dimmed my recollection of the encouragement which gave fresh impulse to the inexperienced essays of my youth, and stimulated me to perseverance when struggling hardly for equality of position with the genius and talent of those artists whose superior excellence I ungrudgingly admitted, admired, and honoured. That encouragement helped to place me, in respect to privileges and emolument, on a footing with my distinguished competitors. With the growth of time your favour seemed to grow; and, undisturbed in my hold on your opinion, from year to year I found friends more closely and thickly clustering round me. All I can advance to testify how justly I have appreciated the patronage thus liberally awarded me, is the devotion throughout those years of my best energies to your service. My ambition to establish a theatre, in regard to decorum and taste, worthy of our country, and to leave in it the plays of our divine Shakespeare fitly illustrated, was frustrated by those whose duty it was, in virtue of the trust committed to them, themselves to have undertaken the task. But some good seed has yet been sown; and in the zeal and creditable productions of certain of our present managers we have assurance that the corrupt editions and unseemly presentations of past days will never be restored, but that the purity of our great poet's text will henceforward be held on our English stage in the reverence it ever should command. I have little more to say. By some the relation of an actor to his audience is considered slight and transient. I do not feel it so. The repeated manifestation, under circumstances personally affecting me, of your favourable sentiments towards me, will live with life among my most grateful memories; and, because I would not willingly abate one jot in your esteem, I retire with the belief of yet unfailing powers, rather than linger on the scene, to set in contrast the feeble style of age with the more vigorous exertions of my better years. Words—at least such as I can command—are ineffectual to convey my thanks. In offering them, you will believe I feel far more than I give utterance to. With sentiments of the deepest gratitude I take my leave, bidding you, ladies and gentlemen, in my professional capacity, with regret and most respectfully farewell." The scene of enthusiasm excited by these parting words was indescribable, and will be long remembered by those who witnessed it and shared in it.

On Saturday, the 1st of March, a dinner was given to Mr. Macready, by his friends and admirers, on his retirement from the stage. In consequence of the eager demand for admissions, the Hall of Commerce was engaged for the occasion, and upwards of six hundred tickets were issued. The chair was occupied by Sir E. Bulwer Lytton, who, in giving the toast "Health, happiness, and long life to William Macready," paid a tribute equally just and eloquent to his merits as an artist and a man. Mr. Macready, in his reply, made some excellent remarks on the duties of an actor, and on the subject of his management of the two great theatres (to which the chairman had alluded) he said:—"Of my direction of the two patent theatres, on which my friend has so kindly dilated, I wish to say but little. The preamble of their patents recites, as a condition of their grant, that the theatres shall be instituted for the promotion of virtue and to be in-

structive to the human race. I think these are the words. I can only say that it was my ambition, to the best of my ability, to obey that injunction; and believing in the principle that property has its duties as well as its rights, I conceived that the proprietors should have co-operated with me. They thought otherwise, and I was reluctantly compelled to relinquish, on disadvantageous terms, my half-achieved enterprise. Others will take up this uncompleted work, and if inquiry were set on foot for one best qualified to undertake the task, I should seek him in the theatre which by eight years' labour he has, from the most degraded condition, raised high in public estimation, not only as regards the intelligence and respectability of his audiences, but by the learned and tasteful spirit of his productions." It is hardly necessary, to say, that Mr. Phelps, of Sadler's Wells, was the object of this just and graceful compliment.—Mr. C. Dickens in giving the health of Sir E. Bulwer Lytton, took occasion to make an interesting communication. He had (he said) the very strongest reason at this time to bear his testimony to Sir Bulwer Lytton's great consideration for evils which were sometimes attendant upon literature, though not upon him; for, in conjunction with some others who were present, he (Mr. Dickens) had just embarked with their chairman in a design for smoothing the rugged way of young labourers both in literature and the fine arts, and for cheering, but by no eleemosynary means, the declining years of meritorious age. If that project prospered, as he believed it would, and as he knew it ought to do, it would be an honour to England, where there was now a reproach upon her, and it would have originated in the sympathy and consideration of their chairman, having been first brought into practical operation by the unstinted gift of his intellect and labour, and endowed from its very cradle by his munificent generosity.—Mr. John Forster, who gave the toast of "Dramatic Literature," said that he had been entrusted with a few lines of poetry, addressed to their distinguished guest, by the poet laureate Alfred Tennyson, with permission to read them. Being loudly called upon to do so, Mr. Forster read the following Sonnet:

"Farewell, Macready, since to-night we part.

Full-handed thunders often have consoled

Thy power, well-used to move the public breast.

We thank thee with one voice, and from the heart.

Farewell, Macready; since this night we part.

Go, take thine honours home: rank with the best,

Garriek, and statelier Kemble, and the rest

Who made a nation purer thro' their art.

Thine is it, that our Drama did not die,

Nor flicker down to brainless Pantomime,

And those gilt gauds men-children swarm to see.

Farewell, Macready; moral, grave, sublime.

Our Shakespeare's bland and universal eye

Dwells pleased, thro' twice a hundred years, on thee."

Among the most prominent speeches were those of M. Van der Weyer the Belgian, and the Chevalier Bunsen, the Prussian minister, both in a genial spirit, and evincing a thorough knowledge and warm appreciation of English art and literature. The festival was broken up by the arrival of midnight.

Her Majesty's Theatre opened for the season on Saturday the 22nd, when Mlle. Duprez, the daughter of M. Duprez, the celebrated French Tenor, made her *début* with great success in *Lucia di Lammermoor*.

Molière's *Tartuffe*, closely translated into English blank verse, by Mr. John Oxenford, was produced at the Haymarket on the 25th. The performance was closely copied from the style of the *Théâtre Français*; and this novel experiment was quite successful.

The first and second Concerts of the Philharmonic Society, took place on the 10th and 24th; and, as usual, drew crowded audiences.

Among the works of art about to be exhibited at the Crystal Palace, there is a picture in enamel, and on glass, of Shakespeare reading one of his plays to Queen Elizabeth and her Court; painted by Mr. Baillie of Wardour Street. A beautiful and very remarkable specimen of an art, almost unknown in England.

COMMERCIAL RECORD.

BANKRUPTS.

From the Gazette of February 25.—J. BURRELL, Blackmoor, Essex, victualler.—J. MATTS, Edgeware-road, ironmonger.—C. F. THOMAS, Bristol, ship-broker.

Feb. 28th. J. WHITEHEAD & Co., Princes-street, Lambeth, rectifiers.—M. ASTLE & Co., Coleman-street, bookbinders.—T. S. DICKENSON, and R. C. DICKENSON, Gresham-street, and Leeds, warehousemen.—D. ODELL, Clapham, Bedford-street, grocer.—W. BROWN, Brunswick-street, Stamford-street, engineer.—H. SMITH, West Bromwich, Staffordshire, iron-founder.—W. HALE, Bishampton, Worcestershire, baker.—T. CARTER, Stafford, coal-dealer.

March 4th. J. SMITH, Victoria-street, Islington, builder.—J. LONERAGAN, Cambridge-terrace, Islington, corn-dealer.—W. TAYLOR, Creek-road, Deptford, shipwright.—E. EMMERTON, Waverdon, Buckinghamshire, innkeeper.—W. WIELER, Crutchedfriars, merchant.—T. MOKENTIN, Minster, shoe manufacturer.—H. E. THOMPSON, Long-acre, India-rubber-bath-manufacturer.—T. DENNIS, Lowestoft, builder.—W. PHILLIPS, Warwick, builder.—T. GRIFFITHS, Darlaston, stone-mason.—J. BROWN, Sord, Nottingham, butcher.—E. UNITT, Mickleton, Gloucestershire, cattle-dealer.—J. and H. SUKEN, Birkenhead, carpet-dealers.—H. CHARLES, Manchester, flour-dealer.

March 7th. W. STORROB, Southampton, upholsterer.—W. COUCH, John-street, Fitzroy-square, pianoforte-maker.—T. BIECH, Brosely, Shropshire, coalmaster.—A. F. WILE, and G. H. WILSON, Hull, merchants.—W. WALKER, Howden, Yorkshire, sacking-manufacturer.—J. HORROCKS, Liverpool, coal-merchant.—H. B. McMILLAN, and R. S. WILSON, Preston, drapers.

March 11th. J. B. WARCUP, Deptford, ironmonger.—C. DRIFFIELD, Beverley, draper.—W. BUCKLE, Pall-mall, master-mariner.—G. PARKER, Coventry, carpenter.—H. BLAKESLEY, Castle Bromwich, brick-dealer.—E. SMITH, Worcester, hop-merchant.—S. T. WALKER, Barrowby-lodge, Lincolnshire, horse-dealer.—M. JONES, Wrexham, cheese-factor.—R. WADE, Plymouth, grocer.—T. KINTON, East Stonehouse, furniture-broker.

March 14. C. GRAHAM, Oxford-street, hosier.—W. LOCKYER, Old-street, baker.—J. WILKINSON, Huddersfield, woollen-cloth-manufacturer.

March 18. H. WATSON and J. G. HICK, Pimlico, cement-manufacturers.—W. J. HAWLEY, Woolwich, grocer.—W. H. TAUZ and B. JACKSON, Great-Russell-street, linendrapers.—R. BLACKER, Ripon, innkeeper.—J. WOODHOUSE, Ripon, draper.—S. THIBBIS, Shuckburgh, Warwickshire, dealer in mineral ores.—J. FARLEY, Liverpool, laceman.—T. DEAN, Seacombe, Cheshire, chemist.—S. ARMSTRONG, Bolton-le-Moors, glass and china dealer.—J. L. HORROCKS, Manchester, merchant.

March 21. H. WATSON and J. G. FINCH, Pimlico, cement-manufacturers.—J. GRAHAM, Notting-hill-square, hosier.—A. HOUNSHAM, Portsmouth, grocer.—J. BUTTREY, Woolwich, victualler.—J. HAWLEY, Woolwich, grocer.—R. W. WRIGHT and Co., Devonshire-street, Bloomsbury, goldsmiths.—J. MARSHALL, Southampton, coal-merchant.—R. W. STREET, Oxford-street, victualler.—H. SCALE, Neath, iron-manufacturer.

March 25. R. AVAN, Westgate, Canterbury, fellmonger.—R. WESTMACOTT, Fulham-road, Chelsea, nurseryman.—J. GLASPOOT, Regent-street, ladies' boot and shoe maker.—R. JACKSON, Selby, Yorkshire, farmer.—A. CROSSFIELD, Ty-Mawr, Glamorganshire, coal miner.—T. BATTEN, Suffolk-lane, Cannon-street, wine merchant.—A. COLYER, Dover, jeweller.—J. STEEL, Rochdale, brewer.

BANKRUPTCIES ANNULLED.

March 7. J. P. HENNINGS, Wyndham-road, Camberwell, dealer in wine.—C. TETLOW, Leeds, innkeeper.

March 21. P. MANCHEE, Curtain-road, cabinet-manufacturer.

MONEY MARKET.

The stability of the monetary and commercial interests of this country, have been fully proved during the past month. Although the political atmosphere has been lowering or stormy; and it can scarcely be said that a government has existed, the British funds have hardly yielded a fraction. The news of the Caffre war produced but a transient depression. The half-yearly dividend declared to the proprietors of the Bank of England was 4 per cent., which, with $3\frac{1}{2}$ paid for the previous half year, makes the rate $7\frac{1}{2}$ per annum.

As speculators could do nothing in British funds, their attention has been turned to the Foreign and Railway markets. The enormous accession of passenger traffic anticipated from the coming Exhibition in Hyde Park, has induced a belief in the certainty of correspondingly large profits, and shares in all the great highway lines have been eagerly bought at prices which—considering that those most in request have been non-dividend paying concerns—range, in proportion, higher than during the mania in 1846. Of Belgian and French shares, one broker alone, on Monday, the 10th March, sold 7000, and two others 4000 each!

STOCKS.

	Highest.	Lowest.	Latest.
Three per Cent. Consols . . .	96 $\frac{1}{2}$	96 $\frac{1}{2}$	96 $\frac{1}{2}$
Three per Cent. Reduced . . .	97 $\frac{1}{2}$	96 $\frac{1}{2}$	97 $\frac{1}{2}$
Three and a quarter per Cents .	99 $\frac{1}{2}$	98 $\frac{1}{2}$	98 $\frac{1}{2}$
Long Annuities, Jan. 1860 . . .	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	7 $\frac{1}{2}$
Bank Stock	215 $\frac{1}{2}$	214 $\frac{1}{2}$	214 $\frac{1}{2}$
India Stock	266	262	263
Exchequer Bills	56s. prm.	47s. prm.	54s. prm.
India Bonds	62s. prm.	51s. prm.	61s. prm.

FOREIGN FUNDS—LATEST PRICES.

Belgian 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent, 93 $\frac{1}{2}$	New York (1858) 5 per cent, 94
Brazilian 5 per cent, 93	Pennsylvania 5 per cent, 86
Chilian 3 per cent, 65	Peruvian 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent, 85 $\frac{1}{2}$
Danish 3 per cent, 77 $\frac{1}{2}$	" (Deferred) 4 p. ct., 39 $\frac{1}{2}$
Dutch 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ p. cent. 12 guild., 58 $\frac{1}{2}$	Portuguese 4 per cent., 34 $\frac{1}{2}$
French 3 per cent, 57 f. 25 c.	Russian 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent, 96 $\frac{1}{2}$
" 5 " 94 f. 96 c.	Spanish 3 per cent, 32 $\frac{1}{2}$
Mexican, 5 per cent, 38 $\frac{1}{2}$ ex. d.	Venezuela Bonds, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$, 32 $\frac{1}{2}$

Faidd.	RAILWAYS.	Highest.	Lowest.	Latest.
50	Aberdeen	16 $\frac{1}{2}$	11 $\frac{1}{2}$	16 $\frac{1}{2}$
100	Brighton and South Coast.	98 $\frac{1}{2}$	96 $\frac{1}{2}$	96
118	Blackwall	8 $\frac{1}{2}$	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	8 $\frac{1}{2}$
100	Bristol and Exeter	89	77	82 $\frac{1}{2}$
50	Caledonian	124	112	15 $\frac{1}{2}$
20	Eastern Counties	8	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	7 $\frac{1}{2}$
50	Edinburgh and Glasgow .	35	24 $\frac{1}{2}$	36
25	Great Northern	18 $\frac{1}{2}$	15 $\frac{1}{2}$	18 $\frac{1}{2}$
100	Great Western, ex. div. .	91 $\frac{1}{2}$	90	89
50	Hull and Selby	105 $\frac{1}{2}$	101 $\frac{1}{2}$	102 $\frac{1}{2}$
100	Lancashire and Yorkshire	63 $\frac{1}{2}$	57 $\frac{1}{2}$	62
100	London & North Western	132 $\frac{1}{2}$	130	130
100	Midland	67	61 $\frac{1}{2}$	64 $\frac{1}{2}$
25	North British	12	9 $\frac{1}{2}$	10 $\frac{1}{2}$
30	South Eastern and Dover	28 $\frac{1}{2}$	26 $\frac{1}{2}$	27 $\frac{1}{2}$
100	South Western	92 $\frac{1}{2}$	88 ex. d.	89 $\frac{1}{2}$
25	York, Newc., and Berwick	22 $\frac{1}{2}$	22	22
50	York and North Midland	29 $\frac{1}{2}$	24 $\frac{1}{2}$	28

FOREIGN RAILWAYS—LATEST PRICES.

Boulogne and Amiens, 101 $\frac{1}{2}$	Paris and Rouen, 26 $\frac{1}{2}$
East Indian, 12 $\frac{1}{2}$	Paris and Strasburg, 11
Namur and Liege, 3 $\frac{1}{2}$	Rouen and Havre, 11 $\frac{1}{2}$
Northern of France, 15 $\frac{1}{2}$	Tours and Nantes, 6 $\frac{1}{2}$

CORN MARKET—LONDON WEEKLY AVERAGES.

Wheat, per qr., 38s. to 46s.; Barley, 27s.; Oats, 16s. 2d.; Rye, 24s. 8d.; Beans, 28s. to 30s.; Peas, 26s.; Flour (town made), delivered, 40s. to 44s.; American barrel of 280 lbs., 22s. to 23s.

PROVISIONS—LATEST WHOLESALE PRICES.

Bacon, per cwt., Waterford, 45s. to 50s.; Belfast, 42s. to 44s.	Hams, per cwt.—York or Cumberland, 40s. to 76s.; Irish, 68s.; Westphalia, 48s. to 51s.
Beef, per 8 lbs., mid. to prime, 2s. 2d. to 3s. 4d.	Mutton, per 8 lbs., mid. to prime, 2s. 6d. to 4s.
Butter, per cwt.—Carlow, 1st, 76s. to 88s.; Waterford, 1st, 74s. to 80s.; Dutchriesland, 94s. to 96s.; Limerick, 76s. to 80s.	Potatoes, per ton—Kent and Essex Shaws, 50s. to 70s.; Kent and Essex Middling, 55s. to 75s.; Chats, 30s. to 35s.
Cheese, per cwt., Cheshire, 40s. to 55s.; Wiltshire, Double, 40s. to 53s.; Dutch, New Gouda, 29s.; American, 34s.	Pork, per 8 lbs., 2s. 6d. to 3s. 10d.; American, New, per barrel, 46s. to 55s.
Eggs, per 120, English, 4s. 6d. to 6s.	Veal, per 8 lbs., 3s. to 4s.

GROCERY—LATEST WHOLESALE PRICES.

Cocoa, per cwt.—Ord. to good red Trinidad, 47s. to 56s.; Brazil, 29s. to 31s.	Sugar, per cwt.—Lumps, 49s. to 52s.; British West India, good grocery, 37s. to 43s.; Mauritius, brown, 29s. to 42s. 6d.; Brazil, do. 32s. to 44s.
Coffee, per cwt.—Good ord., Native Ceylon, 44s. to 72s.; Mocha, 42s. to 50s.; Plantation, 48s. to 55s.; Bahia, 45s. to 47s.	Tea, per lb. (duty 2s. 1d.)—Ord. Congou, 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. to 1s.; Souchong, com. to fine, 1s. to 2s. 8d.; ord. to fine Hyson, 1s. 2d. to 3s. 9d.; Imperial, 1s. 2d. to 2s. 6d.
Rice, per cwt.—Bengal mid. to fine white, 8s. 6d. to 11s. 6d.; Madras, 7s. to 9s. 6d.; Patna, 11s. to 19s.	

Candles, per 12 lbs., 4s. 6d. to 5s. 6d.

OILS.

Pale Seal, per 252 gals., 34l. to 35l.	Palm, per ton, 29l. to 30l.
Sperm, 84l.	Olive, Gallipoli, 43l.
Cod, 38l.	Linseed, 33l. 5s.

THE
HOUSEHOLD NARRATIVE
OF CURRENT EVENTS.

1851.]

FROM THE 27TH MARCH TO THE 26TH APRIL.

[PRICE 2d.

THE THREE KINGDOMS.

PROTECTION and Chartism, Free Trade and Reform, Puseyism and Popery, Bribery and Corruption, the Rotation of the Earth and the Renewal of the Income-Tax, the Bishop of Exeter and the Great Exhibition, the Colonies and the County Courts, and the two monster nuisances of Chancery and Smithfield, have largely occupied attention during the past month.

Chartism re-appears with the renewed hopes of Protection. It is but a phantom, to be sure; an *eidolon* of its former self, which even alliance with its fellow-phantom Socialism cannot swell to respectable size; but it represents a danger notwithstanding, which will be last understood by those whom it first affects, as in such cases commonly happens. Every day makes it more and more plain that Lord Stanley cannot manage his followers. The month opened with a travestie of that celebrated scene at Merchant-Tailors' Hall now thirteen years ago, when Sir Robert Peel re-organised the party shattered six years before by the Reform Bill. But what did Lord Stanley propose at Merchant-Tailors' Hall the other day, to re-organise the party shattered six years before by Sir Robert Peel? Why, plainly, he shirked altogether the real point at issue. He heartily abused Free Trade, but carefully evaded any promise to re-impose Protection. He said that Free Trade was doing enormous evil to one great class, and no sort of good to any other, great or small; yet he never once said he would do his best to bring back the better system it had displaced. He was full of copious fears about emigrants flying by tens of thousands over-sea, about British bottoms narrowing and Foreign bottoms expanding, about incomes dwindling and trade over-trading, about naught being everything and everything naught, but with one single confident hope that they should have Protection back again he had not the heart to comfort his audience. The sum of his advice to his followers was that they should wait for the chance of moving upward; the sum of his warning to his opponents, that they should halt in pushing others downward. As if good can ever be achieved, or evil arrested, without determination at all risks actively to help the one and beat back the other! The consequence has been that in every Protectionist meeting since that day there has been clamour for Protection, and for nothing else. Any further waiting or delay is scouted at. The little bill for the relief of burdens which Mr. Disraeli has now for two successive years presented to the Commons, is voted into the waste-paper basket. Alison and Aytoun, twin prophets of history and poetry, leave their airy spheres to complain of too much plenty, to denounce the importation of corn, and wring their hands over the enormity of John Bull's constant craving for bread. Everything betokens a crisis, if the farmers' friends can only help it on. Smock-frock is to be inflamed against fustian, and an election to be challenged while the top-booted fifty-pounders are still strong in the counties, and the hard-handed ten-pounders weak in the towns. In which state of things, as we have observed, Chartism re-appears with its little programme; and with the hope, by drawing off to itself both fustian and smock-frock, to leave the quarrel to those immediately above them, and afterwards get up a quarrel of its own with whichever may happen to get the victory, in the streets or in the fields. With this view it announces land to be the "inalienable" inheritance of all mankind, and promises the "labourer" that hereafter he shall cease to be "the slave of capital." The inference is that both capital and land are mal-appropriated at present, and deserving more just distribution. It is a phantom, every one will say; but of these there may be a sufficient number disposed to reassure their own fright at its appearance, and at the same time do infinite mischief to others, by needless resort to their revolvers and blunderbusses.

Let us note it as a characteristic circumstance that the name first affixed to this Chartist programme is that of a person notorious for his attempts to degrade the working men of England by circulating among them books of a debasing tendency; and that the next name most prominent among those subscribed to it, is that of the great originator of Snig's End, to whom the operatives of this country owe more of misery and loss than to any other of the long line of selfish and sordid braggarts who have traded on their wants and hopes, and successively betrayed them. A pretty pair truly, to take the lead in a proposed general abolition of apprenticeship and wages, and opening of a credit fund with the state! Worthy minds to entrust with an absolute control over education and religion! Noble hearts to invite the confidence of all who think themselves wronged or suffering, and (as they phrase it themselves) to "stand forth as the unifiers of all those insulated but homogeneous interests, to weld the millions into one compact mass, to evoke the dormant mind of the country, and to launch the gathered power in the right direction!"

Yet even such teachers as these, with even such programmes and announcements, have obtained a hearing among limited sections of the well-intentioned working people of this country, long in search of better teachers, and at last in despair of finding them. The circumstance, however, there is now reason to believe, will not be altogether overlooked in the new reform bill which is understood to be preparing. Lord John Russell has explicitly declared his purpose of introducing, in February next, a measure for the extension of the suffrage commensurate with the improvement that has taken place in the intelligence and conduct of the people; and if this be fully carried out, it will be a doleful day for Mr. G. W. M. Reynolds, and Mr. Feargus O'Connor. Excellently, as well as earnestly, was it said by Mr. Fox Maule, in deprecating persistence with Mr. Locke King's bill for a ten-pound county franchise, that, if the franchise were to be extended, one general measure, affecting all the different franchises at one and the same time, would be the preferable

means of effecting it. While bit-by-bit reforms, he added, would bear no fruit in their isolated shapes, a general measure comprising them would be sure to win support and admiration from all parts of the community, and would thus at once acquire sufficient force out of doors to be carried by a large majority within. This is hopeful language to have been held by a cabinet minister, and on its brave fulfilment much will depend. But Mr. Maule was even more explicit. He expressed to Mr. Locke King agreement in the principle of his bill for conferring the ten-pound franchise in counties, and also declared the specific intention of government "to extend the franchises of the people generally." And further, as if to leave no possible doubt as to one direction which a portion of these franchises would take, he declared his belief that the noble attitude which England had presented at a time when almost every other country on the earth was convulsed with revolutions, had unanswerably shown that the franchise should now be conferred on many who did not possess it, the friends of law, the friends of order, and "entirely worthy of such an extension." If Free Trade be a boon worth keeping, it is this language which holds out the hope that it will yet be fully worked out, and finally secured to us. Other encouraging signs have also made their appearance. Mr. Herries was defeated in his attempt to force taxation back into the old channels by a majority of nearly fifty, and the Chancellor of the Exchequer, so far amending his budget as to remove its most objectionable feature, has promised future enforcement of the only principle which should now prevail in our fiscal policy. If we now submit to the income tax, it will be for advantages incomparably countervailing its evil. To the income tax, with all its inequalities, the middle classes are again willing to submit; but with the condition that industry shall in future be relieved of all pressure that can fairly be taken from it, that encouragement shall be given in every conceivable form to the productive capabilities of the country, and that the promise of a just and reasonable extension of the franchise shall be fairly and honourably kept. This is what our present governors are now "bound over to;" and, in consideration of this, many present shortcomings are wisely agreed to be forgiven.

Thus are particular ailments overlooked when general remedies come within view, and even the scandals of St. Alban's appear to show less hideous than if the time had not clearly arrived when its corrupt existence must have an end. The last case is about the worst in which this notorious place has figured. More shameless corruption was successfully carried on, and more infamous arts successfully used to intercept its consequences. Although the committee had full view of the small house "opening into two thoroughfares" wherein sovereigns passed incessantly for votes by regular tariff; although for several days they had to sit listening to the unmistakable sound of this "bell-metal," and several specific cases of its transfer were in their very grasp; yet at the critical moment of proof the necessary witnesses were kidnapped and carried off, the proceedings of the committee arrested, their power defied, and the sitting member perforce confirmed in his seat side by side with a resolution that corruption of the grossest kind had been practised. The House of Commons has since revenged itself for not getting rid of the member by clapping his kidnapper into Newgate, which for the present is all it can do; and on the very evening when it did this, it had the pleasure and privilege of hearing from Mr. Jacob Bell, thus sitting in its despite for St. Alban's, a lecture on the danger of "*acquiescing* in principles at variance with morality, honour, and Christianity." To this the House might fairly have rejoined that the *acquiescing* in the honorable member's retention of his seat, if that was what he referred to, had been no willing act of its own; but from a subsequent part of Mr. Bell's speech it turned out that this was not what he referred to. He was in truth rebuking Mr. Roebuck for his loose notions in regard to savages, and for certain resolute opinions expressed by the member for Sheffield on the necessity of exterminating the Caffirs. The house listened with curious patience; perhaps out of a sort of feeling that the man sent to St. Stephen's from St. Alban's must be better qualified than most men to defend the barbarous instincts, and represent the interests of savages. It was well known, remarked Mr. Bell, that these aborigines (he did not mention Caffiraria, but neither did he mention St. Alban's) were ready to sell what they had at a moderate price—here the House laughed; that they were quite open to terms of capitulation—here there was another laugh; and that there were means of effecting their civilisation other than those of actual bloodshed, since even among savages there were principles of honour. So may even the Waggetts, Edwardses, and Skeggses, have a good word artfully said for them. It is much to the credit of the new member's ingenuity that he should thus have been able, without too violent a shock to the pride and self-esteem of the House, to defend his absent constituents, eulogise the moderation of their tariff of prices, and waft even a word of consolation into Newgate itself.

If we would offer an example of coarse self-exposure to contrast with this delicacy in disguise, we have but to turn to Mr. Ferrand on the hustings at Aylesbury. Here he was opposed by Mr. Bethel, a gentleman of the utmost refinement of manners as well as intellect; and all the ranting, roaring madness of abuse of which the Ferrand nature is capable, was elicited by the violence of the contrast. As he formerly called Mr. Cornwall Lewis a conspirator, for which he was brought to his knees in the Court of Queen's Bench; as he bestowed upon Mr. Cobden and Mr. Bright the endearing epithet of blood-stained serpents; as he accused the Manchester cotton-spinners of murdering three hundred negroes in America every year, and of starving tens of thousands of their labourers on a penny a head per day; precisely so, he fell foul of Mr. Bethel, called him a tool and a renegade, assailed him with falsehoods of the grossest description, and flourished envelopes of Mr. Bethel's private letters, with which he had managed to come provided. It is yet more as a triumph of good manners than of sound principles that the return of the great equity counsel in the teeth of this vile vituperation deserves record and remembrance. Perhaps there is no instance known, even in the annals of election hustings, of anything so happy and *apropos* as Mr. Bethel's answer to one of the vulgar calumnies of his opponent. Thus ran Mr. Ferrand's argument. He is come here to play the game of the Whigs. Here is an envelope with 'W. G. Hayter' in the corner. What does that mean? Why, it means that the borough of Aylesbury is to be made a stepping-stone to the bench. He wants to be a judge, and that's all he wants with *you*. Where to Mr. Bethel quietly interposed the remark that he had just refused the Vice-Chancellorship, offered him by Lord John Russell.

Nevertheless who shall take upon him to say that Mr. Ferrand is not at this moment embittering his leisure, in his "country seat in Yorkshire," with the feeling that if he had but exercised less delicacy, and been less scrupulous of consideration for the feelings of others, he might now have been sitting member for Aylesbury? For even such, it would seem, is the feeling of Bishop Philpotts, as he sits musing in his palace at Exeter, when he remembers that long ago he had come to the conclusion of proclaiming his "entire want

of confidence in the soundness of the Christian belief of the two highest functionaries in our Church," yet shrunk from doing it out of a silly feeling of tenderness and charity! He makes this amazing avowal in his last pastoral letter; wherein he also informs his friends that he has faithfully kept the vow he registered at the close of the Gorham case, to hold no more communion with his Grace of Canterbury. He declares, moreover, that he utterly denies the royal supremacy in matters ecclesiastical; that the statute which abolished the Court of Delegates, and transferred its appellate functions to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council, shall never be obeyed by him; that, though the law has declared all clergymen holding Mr. Gorham's opinions on the subject of baptism entitled to regular institution, he shall steadily refuse, to all such, institution to benefices in the see of Exeter; and finally, after announcing his determination to hold a synod of his clergy, and declaring that no law or usage exacting the previous license of the crown shall have weight or authority with him, he formally summons such synod to meet in the cathedral church of Exeter, lays down various rules for the immediate election of its members, and winds up by proclaiming that no combined resolution arrived at by them can or shall be definitely adopted without his episcopal concurrence. In short Doctor Philpotts has at last, like Lord Grizzle, broken out into open war; and it simply remains to decide what course shall be taken with the Right Reverend rebel.

Meanwhile there does not appear to be much energy or vigour on the more loyal benches of the episcopacy, to oppose to the rebellion of Exeter (in which, by the way, he is seconded by Bath and Wells), or to stem the current of apostacy and infidelity. Four-and-twenty bishops were sending round an address to the general body of the clergy with the professed design of restoring the peace of the church, and hoping to do it by a simple recommendation in case of difference to let the bishop of the diocese settle the subject of disagreement, at the very moment when the Philpott's defiance came forth, and contemporaneously with other acts of insubordination on the part of the inferior clergy which their respective dioceses had been utterly unable to prevent, and are still too cowardly to punish. Mr. Wagner refuses to baptise a child unless he may be permitted to "pour" as much water over its head as he conceives necessary to give efficacy to the rite; Mr. Kenrick denies the last offices of the church to the body of a dissenting minister of the highest character for piety and usefulness; and both these gentlemen are defended on the score of good intentions, and mistaken zeal. Such are the practical uses and restraints of our well-paid bench of bishops. While Rome is receiving into her fold Protestant Archdeacons, "accomplished" Queen's counsel, and clergymen by half-dozens who have been sitting at the feet of Dr. Pusey, not a single intelligible or earnest movement is made, or likely to be made, by the recognised authorities of the Establishment, to strengthen or extend those only safeguards of vital Christianity which were amply recognised, but most imperfectly carried out, at the period of the Reformation.

The Smithfield enormity is at last verging to extinction, but the other and more monstrous grievance of Chancery is not likely to be materially lightened by the measure now before parliament. There appears to be hope, however, of very important amendments in other directions of the law; and for this we shall chiefly have to thank the zeal and energy of Lord Brougham, who appears honourably resolved to close his life in the noble and useful labours with which it began.

NARRATIVE OF PARLIAMENT AND POLITICS.

[IN THE HOUSE OF LORDS, on Monday the 31st of March, Lord LYNCHURST called the attention of the house to the bill for the *Reform of the Court of Chancery* about to be introduced in the House of Commons, and to that respecting the *Appellate Jurisdiction of the House of Lords*, which would shortly be brought before their lordships. He thought that these two bills were part and parcel of the same measure, and he complained that such a measure should have been first discussed in the House of Commons. There had never been a precedent for such a proceeding, and it was more uncalled for at the present time as the House of Lords had never been so well furnished with eminent men capable of deliberating on so grave a subject. The Lord CHANCELLOR said that the question of Chancery reform was one of immense difficulty, and discussions on it had often taken place in their lordships' house. Under such circumstances, he did not think it extraordinary that Lord J. Russell should have brought forward a similar discussion in the House of Commons.

On Tuesday the 1st of April, Lord TORRINGTON, in moving that a message be sent to the Commons for the evidence taken in reference to the affairs of Ceylon, *Defended his own Conduct as Governor of that Settlement*. He vindicated the taxes he had imposed, and affirmed that he had greatly reduced the expenditure, and placed the trade of the colony in a prosperous condition. He entered into the history of the rebellion; contended that the strong and successful measures he had taken for its suppression were rendered necessary by the circumstances of the case, and denied that he had in any instance been guilty of oppression or inhumanity. In regard to a letter which he had written on the 3rd of May respecting an official person in the colony, he admitted that there was a discrepancy between it and other letters he had written. (His lordship was understood to refer to the letters written by him to Sir Emer-

son Tennent and Mr. Wodehouse.) He acknowledged that he had committed an act of impropriety and indiscretion for which he should ever be sorry.—Earl GREY supported Lord Torrington's defence. He said that Lord Torrington had brought the colony through a commercial crisis and re-established its credit, and had suppressed the rebellion with humanity as well as firmness. Some abuse of martial law might have taken place; but the noble Duke (of Wellington) knew that to check such abuses great severity—wholesome rigour—was necessary. (The Peers were leaving the House, when they were recalled by observing the Duke of Wellington about to speak.) The Duke begged to make an observation in consequence of Earl Grey's reference to himself on the subject of martial law—"I don't mean (he said) to make any observation upon the conduct of the noble Viscount; but I must say it is absolutely impossible for this house at present to pronounce any opinion upon the case brought under your consideration by the noble Viscount. In the first place, we have not a single paper before us, nor have we before us the correspondence which the noble Viscount alluded to in some detail. Until it comes regularly before your lordships, you cannot have a notion to what it refers, and therefore it is premature to make any observation upon that correspondence until the house has the papers in its hands. What I rose for particularly was to answer the appeal made to me by the noble Earl. I say that military law is neither more nor less than the will of the general commanding the victorious army—it is no law at all. The general who puts the law into execution is bound to lay down absolutely the rules and regulations, and limits, to carry it into execution. My lords, I have in a foreign country carried on martial law; that is to say, I governed a large proportion of the country by my own will. What does that mean? Why, it means that the country should be governed by national laws. I governed the country by the laws of the country; and governed it, I must say, with such moderation that the political servants of the country and of the government

whose forces were driven out, acted under my direction, and the judges sat in the courts of law and conducted the business of the country under my direction. I never was in such a position as the noble Viscount who made the address to you has been in; and (continued the Duke, raising his voice to its highest pitch, and vehemently striking the table,) I protest against being called into comparison in any way whatever with him."—Earl GREY explained, expressing his concurrence with what the Duke had said respecting martial law: and Lord Torrington's motion for papers was agreed to.

On Thursday, April 3rd, the Duke of RICHMOND presented a petition from the Town Council of Chichester, complaining of the conduct of the Vicar of St. Peter's in that city, in *Refusing to read the Burial Service over the bodies of a Dissenter and of a woman who had destroyed herself when in a state of lunacy*. After discussion, in which the Bishops of Chichester, London, and Exeter, and Lord Brougham took part, the petition was ordered to lie on the table.

Lord BROUGHAM then moved that the house resolve itself into committee on the *County Courts Extension Bill*; but was opposed by the Lord CHANCELLOR, who, after enumerating his objections to the measure, moved that it be considered in committee that day six months.—Lord BROUGHAM warmly defended the bill, and it was ultimately agreed that it should be committed *pro forma*, and reconsidered on Monday, after the introduction of further amendments.

On Tuesday, April the 8th, the *County Courts Extension Bill* was discussed in committee. The Lord CHANCELLOR repeated his criticism upon the details of the measure; his objections, however, being principally directed against the clause conferring jurisdictions in equity. The bill, he said, would make the county court judges neither more nor less than masters in chancery, in relation to which they had neither experience nor knowledge.—Lord BROUGHAM asserted that Lord Truro had totally mistaken the effect of the bill, and quoted the authority of Lord Lyndhurst in favour of transferring certain portions of business in the master's office to local judicatures. He declared, moreover, that if the provision to which objection was made were struck out, he should not press the bill.—Lord CRANWORTH and Lord CAMPBELL both stated that they did not concur in the objections of the Lord Chancellor.—The clause was retained, the Lord Chancellor declining to divide upon it.—Considerable discussion took place upon several of the remaining clauses, some of which were struck out, especially those relating to reconciliation.—The house was very thin; there being scarcely twenty members present.

On Monday the 14th, Lord BROUGHAM took occasion of a motion for certain returns relative to the salaries of the judges and officers of the County Courts to complain of the delay in the preparation of the criminal law digest.—Lord STANLEY followed up the presentation of a *Petition from British Guiana*, praying for an extension of the colonial franchise, with an argument in favour of a more liberal system of representation, as desired by the petitioners. The document bore 5000 signatures.—Earl GREY denied that the petition presented a fair transcript of the real opinions entertained by the more respectable inhabitants of the colony. He apprehended some risk from an extension of the suffrage under the existing condition of the great mass of its population, but wishing to further all prudent steps that could be devised towards liberalising the constitution of Guiana, considered that the safest means towards accomplishing that end would be found in an improvement of the existing institutions. Some discussion followed; after which the petition was ordered to lie on the table.—The house then adjourned until Thursday, May 1st.

In the HOUSE OF COMMONS on Thursday, March 27th, Lord JOCELYN moved for a committee to inquire into *The Existing Steam Communications between England and India*, and to consider the subject of steam communication having for its object a line or lines connecting England, India, and Australia. Among other reasons for this motion, the main ground, he said, was the discussion which took place last session between the Chancellor of the Exchequer and Sir James Hogg,

relative to the existing contract with the Peninsular and Oriental Company. He thought that it was of importance that inquiry should precede any further arrangements. Lord JOCELYN adverted to the state of the existing arrangements and to the allegations of Sir C. Wood last year as to the objections offered on the part of the East India Company, founded chiefly upon the prejudice which the arrangements proposed by the government would occasion to the Indian navy. He indicated the various points to which he thought the inquiries of the committee might be directed, one of the most important being to determine the best mode in which a connected steam communication might be effected between England, India, and Australia.—The CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER proposed that a select committee should be appointed to inquire into the existing steam communication between India and China, and the practicability of any improvement therein, and also into the best mode of establishing a steam communication between England, India, China, and Australia.—After a conversation of some length, the motion as framed by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, with the addition at the end of the words "and New Zealand," proposed by Mr. Aglionby, was agreed to.

Mr. ANDERSON called the attention of the house to the differential duties levied on British ships in the ports of Spain, and moved a resolution to impose *Countervailing Differential Duties on Spanish Ships in the Ports of the British Empire*.—He observed that this was a subject of very considerable national importance, and, showing the severe burdens thus imposed upon British trade, which it had endured for twenty-six years, he contended that, under the recent navigation act, it was justifiable to subject the ships of Spain in our ports to the equitable principle of reciprocity.—Mr. LABOUCHERE said it was undoubtedly true that, in the first place, Spain did levy discriminating duties in her ports upon goods exported and imported in British and other foreign vessels, as compared with Spanish vessels of a very onerous description; and, secondly, that she in certain cases, treated our trade differently not only from that of her own subjects, but from the trade of other foreign nations. The chief injury arising from this policy, however, was inflicted upon Spain herself. He assured the house that the government had not lost sight of the subject; a correspondence was going on with Spain respecting it, and he recommended that the matter should be left in the hands of the government.—After some discussion, Mr. Anderson's motion was negatived by 98 to 53.

Lord JOHN RUSSELL moved for leave to bring in a *Bill for the better Administration of Justice in the Court of Chancery*. After taking a view of the state of business in that court, and the different plans of improvement which had been suggested, the noble lord said that his bill went upon the foundation—first, that it was desirable to have more than one judge in the Lord Chancellor's court; secondly, that considering the great wear and tear occasioned by the exercise of so many functions, it was desirable that the Lord Chancellor should be able to devote a greater portion of time to the questions before him. It proposed that there should be a court, to be called the Supreme Court of Chancery, or the Lord Chancellor's Court, in which should sit the Lord Chancellor, the Master of the Rolls, and one of the judges in the courts of law to be summoned from time to time; that any two of them should have the power of hearing causes, and that, in the absence of the Lord Chancellor, the other two judges shall have the same power. The salary of the Lord Chancellor it was proposed to fix at 10,000*l.*, leaving the retired allowance the same as now—namely, 5000*l.* It was further proposed to vest the ecclesiastical patronage now administered by the Lord Chancellor, in the crown, to be exercised by the First Minister, taking the pleasure of the crown.—After some observations from Mr. Stuart, Mr. Roundell Palmer and others, leave was given to bring in the bill.

On the report upon *The Appointment of a Vice-Chancellor Bill*, Sir H. WILLOUGHBY objected to the amount of the retiring pension, and moved that it be reduced to 3000*l.*—The ATTORNEY-GENERAL opposed the motion, on the ground that, if the retiring allowance

was reduced, either the salary must be increased, or the public would lose the services of the most efficient persons.—Upon a division, the motion was negatived by 49 to 32.

On Friday, March 28th, the house considered a petition in reference to the *St. Alban's Election*. The point raised on behalf of the petitioner (and of the sitting member) was, that the committee of selection had failed in giving due notice of its intention to strike the election committee. The act of parliament requires fourteen days' notice, and as the votes are not published until nearly the middle of the day, it was contended that such day of publication was not to be considered as one of the fourteen days, which the advocates of the petition conceived must mean "clear" days. After much debate the house divided, and, by a majority of 204 to 79, decided in favour of the committee of selection, and against the petition. The committee for the *St. Alban's election* was then sworn, as was the committee for the *Aylesbury Election*, on which the same point arose, and was governed by the preceding decision.—Colonel DUNNE moved a resolution condemnatory of certain orders which have been given not to receive any more pensioners into the *Royal Military Hospital at Kilmainham*; from which orders it might be inferred that it was the intention of the government to abolish that institution. He considered such abolition unjust to the old soldiers of Ireland; stated that the land on which the Royal Hospital was erected was granted by Charles II. to trustees for the purpose of building such asylum, and that it was built by deductions from the pay of Irish soldiers; contended that the saving by the abolition would be very unimportant, and that the transfer of the Irish establishment to England was part of an unjust and impolitic system of centralisation.—Mr. GRATTAN seconded the motion.—Mr. Fox MAULE said there was no intention of hurry in the matter, as was shown by the usual Kilmainham vote being included in the estimates. But although, when such institutions as Chelsea and Kilmainham were originated, they were the only refuge for the wounded or worn-out soldier, it was not so now; and the in-pension system was by no means popular with the British army. The soldier preferred the out-pension, which allowed him to live with his family. He denied that any soldier had ever paid towards the erection or support of these establishments, a shilling of money which could be properly called his own. He admitted that the land upon which Kilmainham Hospital stood was inalienable except by act of parliament, but asserted that any government could discontinue the admission of in-pensioners. He went on to say that there was ample room at Chelsea for all in-pensioners of the British army, but that not a man would be moved from Kilmainham who was entitled to his room there. But Kilmainham was rather kept up for show than use, many officers of high rank having quarters there, and but a small part of the building being appropriated to its original object. On the grounds of the unpopularity and want of economy of the system, he was in favour of its discontinuance; but all that had been done at present was to order that no person should be admitted into Kilmainham without the knowledge of himself, as administrator of the funds voted by parliament.—On a division the motion was negatived by 137 to 105.

The house went into committee on the *Army Estimates*. On the first vote for 98,714 men, Mr. HUME moved that the number be reduced 5000; but the amendment was negatived, and the vote agreed to. The second vote of 3,521,070*l.* for the land forces, was objected to on account of the lateness of the hour, and postponed till Monday.

On Monday, the 31st, the house in committee proceeded with the army estimates, and a number of sums were voted after some discussions.

On Tuesday, April 1, Mr. S. WORTLEY drew the attention of the government to the proceedings of certain *Refugee Foreigners in this country*, inquiring whether any measures were in contemplation to prevent any possible disturbances in this country, or any interruption of our amicable relationship with other countries that might arise therefrom.—Sir G. GREY stated that the ministry had not overlooked the circumstances, but

decided the very idea that our own tranquillity would be in peril, and submitted that any legal measures of restraint upon the liberty of foreigners resident among us would constitute an unpardonable violation of the duties of hospitality. If they proceeded to conspire against the governments of our allies, the law, as it now stood, provided for their sufficient punishment.

The second reading of the *County Franchise Bill* was moved, on Wednesday, April 2, by Mr. Locke KING, who exhorted Lord John Russell to put himself at the head of the movement for extending the franchise.—Mr. Fox MAULE concurred in the principle of the bill, but contended that it was not now called for; Lord John Russell having already pledged himself to bring forward an extensive measure of reform.—Sir Benjamin HALL declared his willingness to accept the pledge given by the government, and recommended the withdrawal of the bill, in which recommendation Sir de Lacy EVANS concurred.—Lord John RUSSELL reiterated his pledge to bring forward a bill for the extension of the franchise at the very commencement of the next session, but declined at present to enter into any details. Mr. Locke KING left the matter in the hands of the house; and, on a division, the second reading of the bill was negatived by 299 to 83.

On Thursday, April 3, Mr. ANSTAY moved an address to the Queen for a commission to inquire, in India, into the operation and results of the existing laws touching the government of the territories under the administration of the *East India Company*. He observed that on former occasions inquiry had been considered a condition precedent to the renewal of the Company's exclusive privileges; that the last extension of their term of rule was of the nature of an experiment, and that the act of 1833 was unduly precipitated—facts which rendered preliminary inquiry, before the lease was again renewed, the more necessary. The grievances which existed in 1833—ryotwar tenures, the monopolies of opium, salt, and tobacco, the exclusion of natives from offices of trust—remained, he said, undressed, and their effect was visible in the "low and abject condition of the cultivating population of India," declared in the report of the cotton committee of 1848. He insisted upon the oppressive character of the assessment—the land tax (or rent as it was termed) reaching to 45 or 50 per cent, payable in money before the crop was carried; upon the severity of other imposts; upon the harsh restrictions and compulsions to which the labouring classes in India were subjected, and under which nine-tenths of them were annually sold up. Adverting to the machinery of Indian administration, which, he alleged, equally demanded inquiry, he taxed the Court of Directors with supineness; he denounced the vices of the judicial system and the abuses in the dispensation of justice; and, on the subject of foreign politics, he enlarged upon the disregard of treaties with native states, and the readiness to engage in war which characterised the Indian government, and which tended to destroy the confidence once felt by the people of India in English justice.—Lord John RUSSELL opposed the motion; contending that the proposed inquiry in India would be the worst mode that could be adopted, since it would produce great excitement and interfere with the governing authorities in India; and that, if inquiry were needed, it would be far better that it should be conducted by a committee of that house.—Sir James WEIR HOGG accused Mr. Anstey of unfair and uncanonically conduct; for, while professing to call for inquiry, he had cast the vilest insinuations against the Board of Directors, without and even contrary to evidence.—Mr. BRIGHT contended that searching inquiry was necessary; but, as Lord John Russell had given some reason to expect that a committee would be appointed, he recommended Mr. Anstey to be satisfied with what he had elicited.—Mr. ANSTAY took this advice, and withdrew his motion.—Lord John RUSSELL then moved, in pursuance of the resolution of last session, that the house resolve itself into a committee to consider the mode of administering the *Oath of Abjuration to persons professing the Jewish religion*. He recapitulated what took place upon the occasion when the Baron de Rothschild came to the table to take the oaths; the only obstacle being his objection to the words in the oath of abjuration, "on

the true faith of a Christian." In considering with what view these words had been inserted in the oath, it appeared from the report of the committee that they were first introduced in the reign of James I., not to exclude the Jews, but to give solemnity to the oath, the other words containing its whole substance. As Jews, however, could not sit in that house without taking this oath, the question was whether parliament should relieve them—the bare and simple point being whether religious opinions were to disqualify from political functions. This question had been often argued, and the result was, that acts, not opinions, were what parliament should legislate for.—Sir R. INGLIS reiterated his former objections to a scheme which was to open the doors of that house, not only to Jews, but to men of all religions and of no religion; and, declaring that he resisted this measure from a deep conviction that the course of proceeding adopted by the government was fraught with difficulty and danger, he moved that the committee be deferred for six months.—Mr. M. GIBSON called the attention of the house to the humiliating position in which it was placed in reference to this question. After what had passed, the measure should have been introduced earlier; and he hoped, if it were rejected a third time in another place, the government would take some decided step. After some observations from Mr. Plumtree, Mr. Prosser, and Mr. Newdegate, Lord John's motion was carried by 166 to 98. The house then went into committee, and a resolution was agreed to, that leave should be asked to bring in a bill; and the house having resumed, leave was given accordingly.

On Friday the 4th, Sir B. HALL, in reference to the recent address of the archbishops and bishops to her Majesty, asked Lord John RUSSELL whether he was aware that the prelates intended to take any steps for the *Suppression of Puseyism*. In introducing the question, Sir B. Hall adverted to the statement, which had been published, that a clergyman had refused to baptise an infant child of Lord Londesborough except in a way dangerous to the child's health.—Lord J. RUSSELL regretted that Sir B. Hall had brought up the *ex parte* statement of Lord Londesborough. He then said that since his last statement to the house upon the subject, he had, personally, had no communication with the archbishops or bishops, in whose hands he considered such a matter was most properly left. He would say nothing about the address by the twenty-four archbishops and bishops, but an address upon the question raised by Sir B. Hall had been presented (signed by 230,000 persons) to her Majesty, who had ordered it to be referred to the Archbishop of Canterbury for communication to the other archbishops and bishops, and, with such reference, there had been added an intimation that her Majesty was desirous to discourage any act not in accordance with the law, or with the established usages of the church. He was content to leave the matter to the discretion of the Archbishop, but there would be no difficulty about producing the communication, which had been made two or three days ago. He deprecated discussing such a topic in that house, and added that, though entertaining very strong opinions upon it, nothing should induce him (remembering the unfortunate events which had occurred in reference to the Scotch Church) to take any step tending to a disruption in the Church of England.—The house then went into a Committee of Ways and Means and the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER made his *Second Financial Statement*. After several general remarks on the principles of financial policy, and taking a view of the present state of the public revenues and expenditure, he proceeded to explain the cause which he had now adopted. He said, that two of his arrangements formerly proposed—namely, the duty on clover-seeds, and the transference expenses of lunatic asylums—having been very generally censured, he should not press them in opposition to the wishes of those they were intended to benefit. It had been proposed to him to repeal the window-tax unconditionally. The best answer to that proposal was to set the amount of the surplus against the amount of that duty. He would then be left a surplus of 40,000*l.*, and a small item on the Kaffir war would occasion a deficiency. But the sound objection to the window-duty was the mode in

which it was levied. He had conceived that the substitution he had proposed would be considered equitable and fair, and he thought that many of the complaints against it had been more loud than just. At the same time he admitted that it had been deficient in the uniformity of imposition, which was so desirable. He therefore proposed to retain the abolition of the window-tax; thus preserving the sanitary value of his measure. He next proposed (in lieu of his previous scheme) to charge a uniform tax upon old and new houses alike, of 9*d.* in the pound upon dwelling-houses, and 6*d.* upon shops and houses used for the occupation of land. He would retain the exemption of houses under 20*l.* annual value. His proposal would reduce the number of houses it had been proposed to charge, from 500,000 to 400,000, would confer a great benefit upon shops and the other buildings on which the reduced sum was to be charged, and would reduce the amount of the total duty by the sum of 1,136,000*l.*, leaving him 720,000*l.* only. He went into a variety of instances to show what would be the working of this scheme in different parts of London and the country, and he contended that the tax would not in future be paid by the "people" in the ordinary sense of the word. There were 3,500,000 houses in the kingdom, the tax upon 3,100,000 would be remitted, and it would be charged upon 400,000 of the best houses in the country. This he conceived to be the nearest possible approach to a fairly-levied property-tax. He next said that he should adhere to his former proposal as to coffee and timber, and that the total amount of contemplated reductions would be 1,536,000*l.*, which would leave a permanent surplus of 356,000*l.* For the present year, as there would be a half-year's window-duty to receive in July, there would be 568,000*l.* to add to this; so that the total surplus for this year only would be 924,000*l.* He could not consider it right to make any further reduction. He then proceeded to say that the income-tax would be retained for a limited time, by which he understood such time as should enable the country to carry out the financial reforms for the sake of which it was imposed. After a brief attack upon the financial policy of the opposition, he concluded by an intimation, that the consequences of a protectionist policy might be most dangerous, but that while the people were properly treated, we might defy all the perils which had agitated the Continent from end to end. This statement gave rise to a desultory discussion; many members making detached remarks on different parts of the financial scheme.

On Monday, April 7, on the motion that the report of the Committee of Ways and Means be brought up, Mr. HERRIES brought forward his amendment respecting the *Income Tax*. It was to the effect that that tax should be continued in such proportion only as might be necessary for the discharge of the public services, and the due maintenance of the national credit. Mr. Herries was glad to find, by the revenue-tables of the present quarter, that the prosperity of the country, as to which he never entertained any doubt or anxiety, is even greater than the Chancellor of the Exchequer lately announced. He was disposed to swell the Chancellor's estimate of the surplus of the current year from 1,890,000*l.* to 2,220,000*l.* or 2,300,000*l.* The prosperity, which he does not deny, he adduces in support of his proposal. When the maladministration of the Whigs, and their yearly deficit, compelled the country to transfer the Government to the hands of the late Sir Robert Peel, there was no alternative for repairing the mischief done, but the income tax: it was accordingly proposed to meet the special emergency. Sir Robert Peel thought that three years' duration of the tax would perhaps suffice, but he intimated that a longer period might be found necessary; and when, at the end of three years, it was found that the three years had not been sufficient, Parliament did not oppose the renewal of the tax,—though the gentlemen now on the Treasury-benches did not submit without considerable opposition. In 1848 again, it was felt that a distress sufficiently great, oppressive, and diffused, then prevailed, to create an emergency which justified the reimposition of the tax. On that occasion, the protests made by persons of great weight, and authority, now occupying the ministerial benches, were more and more emphatic. Lord John Russell concluded that the tax would be necessary only "in a war

of an arduous and costly nature;" but then, though necessary, "inequality, vexation, and fraud would ever be inherent in it." Mr. Labouchere deemed it an "extreme measure." The then Lord Howick, with all the weight of his distinguished character, branded the tax as "exceedingly odious"—beyond everything, for its "monstrous inequality." Sir Francis Baring felt such grave objections to the tax, that "if he stood alone he would record his dissent from it." These opinions of leading members in that house made it a matter of good faith, honesty, and sound policy, apart from all considerations of personal consistency or partisanship for free trade or protection, that at the present time, when there is no arduous war on hand, no period of famine hardly passed by, and no crisis of national commerce still unrecovered from, the house should not hastily impose a tax so unjust that nothing but the pressure of an emergency embracing some of these dire evils could excuse it. The landlord paid the tax of a nominal rent, for the reduction of which no abatement was made. The tenant-farmer was assessed, he might almost say, "on his losses." The merchant, the professional man, felt the injustice of an impost which fell upon them far more severely than on the rich. Now, therefore, that there was a surplus, the opportunity had arrived for mitigating these evils. The present budget did not promote the interests of free trade by making things cheaper; it merely took off a direct tax; but if this was to be done, the income tax required to be abolished before the window tax. With the present surplus of two millions, the former tax might be reduced from 7d. to 5d. in the pound, and a relief of 1,550,000*l.* would thus be effected; whereas the measure proposed by the Chancellor of the Exchequer would only afford a relief of 1,200,000*l.* The sanitary objections to the window tax might be obviated without any diminution of the revenue, by a mode of assessment irrespective of the number of windows. Mr. Herries concluded by asking the Premier how, with a surplus in his hands, and in the absence of any excuse for exceptional measures, he could ask the house to continue a tax stigmatised by the noble lord himself as full of fraud, vexation, and injustice? —The CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER denied that there was any inconsistency between his present and his former language in respect of this tax. When Sir R. PEEL proposed its renewal in 1845, it was for the avowed purpose of making "a great experiment in taxation." He (Sir C. Wood) then admitted the sufficiency of such a ground, and on a similar principle he now desired to renew the income tax in order to carry out a change of taxation. When that change was accomplished, the tax in question might be reduced or repealed. He proposed that the tax should be continued for three years without any alteration in the schedules. If they appeared so unjust to all classes, perhaps they might not be unjust to any. Mr. Pitt and Sir R. Peel were both impressed with the difficulty—he would almost say "the impossibility of modifying the schedules." It might have been more popular to ask to continue the tax for only one year, leaving the burden of its renewal on the future Chancellor of the Exchequer; but such a course would have scarcely been honest. The original objections to its extension to Ireland existed now in still greater force. He had been accused of rendering the income tax permanent by taking off duties on articles of consumption; but he only proposed reductions which, by increasing consumption, would enlarge the revenue. At any rate, such a complaint came awkwardly from a party who advocated the total repeal of the paper duty, which yielded 700,000*l.* per annum, and of the malt tax, which produced 5,000,000*l.* By means of the income tax the ordinary revenue was the same now as in 1844, though seven millions of taxes had been repealed in the meanwhile. During the year ending April the 5th last the Excise duties had increased about 835,000*l.*; and if such were the results of past reductions, similar results might be anticipated from pursuing a similar course. He had given up a reduction of the duty on seeds because it was stated that such a measure would be a hardship to the agricultural interest. As to the proposal that had been made relative to pauper lunatics, he would be no party to transferring the poor to the national revenue. The present amendment was only a portion of the

protectionist scheme lately developed by Lord Stanley. —Mr. Herries' amendment was supported by Mr. Prinsop, Mr. Booker, Mr. Spooner, Mr. Sharman Crawford; and opposed by Mr. F. Peel, Sir R. Inglis, and Mr. Wilson. On a division, the amendment was negatived by 278 to 230; majority for ministers 48.

On Tuesday, April 8, Lord ASHLEY moved for leave to bring in a Bill for the erection of *Lodging Houses for the Working Classes*. He supported the measure by some remarkable statements. In one of the best parishes in London, that of St. George's Hanover Square, a return in 1842 showed that there were 1462 families living in only 2174 rooms; and of these, 929 families had but a single room for all the members of each family in common. Lord Ashley had seen a single room containing five families; one family occupying each corner, and one the middle. The report of the London Fever Hospital for 1845 stated particulars of a single room whence came a vast proportion of the hospital patients: the room was thirty-three feet nine inches long and twenty feet wide; in it were crowded frequently fifty, not seldom seventy, and sometimes from ninety to a hundred men. From that one room came one-fifth part of the whole admissions for the year into the Fever Hospital—one hundred and thirty patients came from that room alone. The provincial towns presented scenes even worse; as Lord Ashley showed by details almost revolting to read, concerning Manchester, Liverpool, Bradford, Lorpeth. A great remedy would be put into the hands of voluntary municipal humanity by the present measure, which was as near as possible a transcript of the Baths and Wash-houses Act.—Sir G. GREY assented willingly to the introduction of the bill, but cautioned the house against expecting too much from measures of this kind. The bill was brought in and read a first time.—M. WINSTON BARRON moved that the house should, in committee, consider the *State of Ireland* with a view to the relief of the distress there existing. He supported his motion by statistics which went to prove that the pauper relief is substantially increasing, although out-door relief has been practically suppressed by the commissioners; that the county-rates have collaterally enormously increased; that land is going out of corn cultivation by millions of acres; that the export trade of pigs has almost ceased; that trade is smashed, the land ruined, the tenants broken, and the good labourers fleeing the country; that cities and towns are desolate, villages erased, and the population wandering about beggars or thieves; that housebreaking is more common than picking pockets in London; the gaols full of criminals, who are no sooner discharged for one offence than they commit another, to get back into prison; emigration already begun with the spring, and at this early time in full swing. He concluded by asking, would the legislature stretch forth a hand to save this unhappy country? Sir LUCIUS O'BRIEN seconded the motion, believing that we little know here what is going on in Ireland. Sir WILLIAM SOMERVILLE treated all the statements as fables; the figures as garbled and picked unfairly here and there from returns and tables, the general drift of which they belie. He affirmed that both pauperism and crime had regularly decreased during the last three years. The Irish members differed on the subject. Mr. REYNOLDS supported the motion. Mr. M. J. O'CONNELL opposed it. Mr. Sharman CRAWFORD moved the addition to it of words especially directing the attention of the committee to consider the best means of amending the laws respecting the relationship of landlords and tenants in Ireland. Mr. FAGAN seconded the amendment. Lord JOHN RUSSELL feared that the mover would in committee find his supporters opposing all his proposals. On a division the motion was negatived by 138 to 129; ministerial majority, 9.

The second reading of the *Smithfield Enlargement Bill* was moved on Wednesday, the 9th, by Sir James DUKE. The bill was supported by a number of metropolitan members, including Alderman SIDNEY, Mr. WAKLEY, Mr. OSBORNE, and Mr. MASTERMAN. These members admitted generally that Smithfield in its present state is an inconvenience—even a nuisance, that is no longer to be tolerated; but they dwelt upon the perfect cure of

all existing evils, which their bill for nearly doubling the site of Smithfield, and for re-organising its plan, will introduce; and, on the other hand, they insisted that the government scheme is in principle highly injurious to enormous existing interests, and is, so far as practical formation goes, up to this time totally in the clouds—for not the least intimation is given, on the contrary every intimation is withheld, of the site on which the proposed roving commission may ultimately rest their feet. Alderman SIDNEY complained that the government influence was so fully exercised against the bill promoted by the corporation; and pointedly told Lord John Russell, that he cannot serve two masters, and as he had served others at the expense of his constituents, he must expect that his constituents would, at a fitting opportunity, visit him with an expression of their displeasure.—The bill was likewise supported by Mr. Stuart Wortley, the Recorder of London, and by several agricultural members, Sir C. Knightley Mr. Stafford, and Sir H. Halford.—Mr. CHRISTOPHER, in moving an amendment, that the bill be read that day six months, showed that no central site can be made a sufficient one to exhibit in a manner, that consults the interests of the seller, even a portion of the number of animals that would be brought to a metropolitan market; he moved that the bill be read a second time that day six months.—Mr. FITZROY seconded the amendment; and showed how the petition in favour of the city plan had been manufactured.—Mr. W. WILLIAMS spoke against retaining Smithfield, and advocated a suburban market on each side of the Thames; but he was ready to give to the City measure the fair privilege of reference to the same select committee to which the government measure is referred. Mr. W. Miles, Mr. Mackinnon, and Mr. Mowatt, opposed the measure before the house; intending to support the government bill. The government opposition to the corporation measure was embodied by Mr. Cornewall Lewis and Sir George Grey. Mr. LEWIS put the issue pending distinctly before the house; if the City bill were carried, the government bill would necessarily fall to the ground; if, on the other hand, the government bill were approved, the city bill must necessarily be abandoned. With respect to tolls, the City bill enormously increased them—raises them to rates varying from threefold to sevenfold the existing rates; while the government bill maintained the present rates. With respect to a new site instead of the present central one, government had not come to any decision; the question was left quite at large, for the determination of the commission to be appointed under the bill.—Lord John RUSSELL said that he had not resolved precipitately, and he will not now hesitate about his duty, but will prefer the general interests of the community to the partial interests of the citizens of London.—The house divided on the amendment, which was carried by 246 to 124; majority for the removal of Smithfield Market, 122.

The second reading of the government measure, the *Smithfield Market Removal Bill*, was then moved by Mr. CORNEWALL LEWIS, and carried, after a slight discussion, by 230 to 65. On the motion for its being committed, Mr. HUME protested against the measure, which he said was equivalent to declaring the city of London unfit to manage its own affairs. Lord John Russell had better have deprived it of its charter at once.—Lord John RUSSELL said, that Smithfield market might be quite large enough for the city, but the metropolis consisted of a large and densely populated extent of ground in addition to the city, and it was designed to legislate for the benefit of the whole metropolis—an object for which the City had refused to co-operate with government.—Sir J. DUKE said, that the Corporation of London did not complain that government proposed to establish a new market, if it were deemed necessary, but that it was proposed to abolish the old one.—Mr. STAFFORD predicted that this bill would be thrown out by the House of Lords, on the ground of its violating ancient charters. The motion, referring the bill to a select committee to be nominated, and five members to be chosen by the committee of selection, was then agreed to.

On Thursday, April 10, Sir W. MOLESWORTH moved

resolutions to the effect that steps should be taken to relieve this country from its present *Civil and Military Expenditure on account of the Colonies*; and that it is expedient to give to the inhabitants of the colonies, which are neither military stations nor convict settlements, ample powers for their local self-government. He began by stating the amount of the expenditure incurred by the united kingdom on account of the colonies. According to the last return for 1846-7, this amount was 3,500,000*l.*: the civil expenditure being 500,000*l.*, the military 3,000,000*l.* This charge had rapidly increased from 1,800,000*l.*, in 1832; and the sum of 3,000,000*l.* did not cover the whole of the military expenditure; to this sum, which represented the actual disbursements in the colonies, must be added those at home for the non-effective services, or a proportion of the dead weight, which he took at five-elevenths of the effective charge, or 1,000,000*l.*; which made a total of 4,000,000*l.* The whole question as to the reduction of this expenditure resolved itself into the necessity of maintaining 44,000 or 45,000 men in the colonies. He contended that it was only necessary to garrison eight military stations with 17,000 men, which would cost 850,000*l.*, not much exceeding the charge for the Cape of Good Hope alone, with a Kaffir war. The colonies, properly so called, in North America, the West Indies, Australasia, and South Africa, took 26,000 men, at the cost to this country of 2,600,000*l.* a year, about 8*s.* 6*d.* in the pound of our exports to the colonies, and nearly equal to their local revenue. If these colonies were governed as they ought to be, he contended that no troops would be required there at the expense of the imperial treasury, except for military stations and convict settlements. A military force demanded for colonial purposes should be paid by the colony; if for imperial objects, by the mother-country. Sir William distinguished the several objects, and then examined the circumstances of each colony, and the reductions of imperial expenditure which might be effected in each. In the North American colonies the military expenditure for imperial purposes, he thought, could be diminished by 400,000*l.* a-year. In the West India plantations there might be reductions to the extent of 250,000*l.* From the Australian colonies nearly all the troops could be withdrawn. In approaching the case of the South African colonies, he took occasion to view the whole subject of the Kaffir war, inquiring, first, who was to pay the cost; secondly, the causes which had led to the war; thirdly, what steps should be taken to protect the mother-country against the expense of future frontier wars? He assigned reasons why the whole burden of the present conflict in British Caffraria could not be thrown upon the colonists. His inquiry into its causes embraced a comprehensive survey of the policy pursued by the local government towards the native tribes, and a criticism on the proceedings of Sir H. Smith, who, with Lord Grey, he alleged, was responsible for this war. Among other particulars connected with this subject, Sir W. Molesworth noticed the deposition by Sir H. Smith of the Kaffir Chief Sandilli, which led to the present war, and quoted Sir Harry's own account of the strange ceremonies he went through on that occasion. "The Kaffirs being arranged into a circle, I rode into the midst of them, bearing in my right hand a serjeant's halbert, well sharpened, the emblem of war; in my left hand a magic wand, my baton of peace and authority, surmounted with a brass knob. I directed each chief to come forward, and touch whichever he pleased—it was immaterial to me. They all touched the symbol of peace; then each chief kissed my foot, exclaiming 'Inkosi Inkulu.' I then shook hands with each, never having done so before. Three cheers were given; and thus commenced the foundation of their social condition." At another meeting (said Sir W. Molesworth) he treated the Kaffirs to a little conjuring. "He had a waggon stationed on an eminence at a considerable distance, with no one whatsoever near it. 'Now,' said Sir Harry to the Kaffirs—I quote his own words—'you dare to make war! you dare to attack our waggons! see what I will do if you ever dare to touch a waggon or the oxen belonging to it! Do you see that waggon, I say? Now hear my word—Fire! (The waggon is blown up.) Ah! do you see the

waggon now? And you would, and shall, be blown up with it if you ever again attempt to touch another. So be good, and believe in your father." Sir Harry said that the astonishment of the Kaffirs at this trick was excessive; and so ought to have been Lord Grey's when he read it. Sir Harry also harangued the Kaffirs in speeches full of bombast and rhodomontade, with a mixture of religion, or rather of blasphemy, beginning with a curse and ending with a prayer, much after the fashion of a mock oration of a trooper of Cromwell. Thus, by alternately coaxing and threatening the Kaffirs, by alternately praising and reviling them, by playing all manners of fantastic and mountebank tricks, by aping the manners of the savage, Sir Harry thought to civilise the Kaffirs and to impose upon them. But the Kaffirs laughed at him, turned him into ridicule, and imposed upon him." Sir W. Molesworth feared that, unless we withdrew our forces from the Cape, we must be prepared for a charge of 700,000*l.* or 1,000,000*l.* a year more than the value of the colony, which, having recently set this country at defiance, would be more than a match for Sandilli and all his people. In conclusion, Sir William estimated the ultimate saving in the military expenditure for the colonies at 1,600,000*l.*, besides 130,000*l.* out of the civil expenditure.—Mr. HAWES said, he could not pretend to reply off-hand to a speech of such research and detail as that of Sir William Molesworth; he therefore contented himself with generally criticising the speech, as founded on pecuniary considerations—as recommending the absolute abandonment of the mass of our non-military colonies. He deprecated ridicule against Sir Harry Smith in his absence: and, as the most conciliatory mode of meeting the motion consistently with his duty, he moved "the previous question," rather than the direct negative.—Mr. ADDERLEY and Mr. CORBEN supported the motion; the latter said that Sir W. Molesworth's speech had exhausted the subject and could not be answered.—Lord J. RUSSELL considered this a most important question, for it was not a question of retaining an expense of 1,600,000*l.*, but whether the tendency of our policy should be for the maintenance or dissolution of the empire. It was not a question of diminishing the military establishments, but of taking away the whole of the military force from those colonies which were not convict or military stations. It was impossible to consider this question without endeavouring to trace the consequences of such a policy. It had been said that the colonies would remain attached to us by identity of race; but this consideration would not govern all of them—Canada and the Cape, for example. It was also assumed that there would be perpetual peace, but a sudden turn of events might involve us in hostilities with some power in Europe, when the colonies might become the stations of hostile fleets and privateers. It was quite evident that if the proposed plan were carried into effect, this country could not maintain its position and reputation in the world, and that foreign powers would be tempted to concert plans of attacking us. Reductions were in gradual progress in some of the colonies, but this was an attempt to apply the same rule at once to all. These were questions to be decided from time to time, under the supervision and control of the house, which he trusted would be exercised with a view to maintain the integrity of this mighty empire.—Upon the motion of Mr. HUME, the debate was adjourned.

On Friday, April 11, on the order of the day for going into committee on the Assessed Taxes Act, Mr. DISRAELI moved the following amendment—"That, in any relief to be granted by the remission or adjustment of taxation, due regard should be paid to the *Distressed Condition of the Owners and Occupiers of Land in the United Kingdom.*" The debate which followed, on this exhausted subject, though somewhat long, was void of novelty or interest. Mr. Disraeli made no specific propositions, nor even hinted at any which, in his opinion, ought to be adopted.—Mr. LABOUCHERE professed himself mystified alike by the motion and the speech: the latter seemed to be a "financial exercitation," leaving the aims of the speaker in greater doubt than before. But, at all events, it seemed aimed at the budget—"sufficient for the day is the budget thereof."—Mr. GLADSTONE was not satisfied either with the

budget or with the shadowy and vague plan of Mr. Disraeli; but he gave his vote for the budget, as containing the least amount of evil.—Lord JOHN RUSSELL described the repeated opposition motions brought forward on this subject as mere delusions attempted to be practised on the house and the country. "Honourable members," he said, "would be dealing more fairly and candidly with the great body of their countrymen, if either they were to propose that Parliament should give relief by the remission of certain duties which they imagine affect the landed interest, and that then we should hear no more of protection—that great source of dissension should be for ever dried up; or if they said fairly, 'We stand boldly on the question of protection: if protection is restored, we succeed—if it is denied, we fail.' Let it be a fair motion, and not a delusive motion, and, as becomes a great party in this country, let them put the issue fairly between us."—The other speakers were Mr. Stafford, Lord John Manners, Mr. Miles, Mr. Newdegate, Sir Robert Peel, Sir W. Joliffe, Colonel Sibthorp, Mr. Reynolds, Mr. Keogh, and Sir Thomas Aekland, in favour of Mr. Disraeli's amendment; and Mr. Bright, Sir C. Wood, Mr. M. O'Connell, and Mr. J. O'Connell, in favour of government.—On a division the numbers were—For Mr. Disraeli's amendment, 250; against it, 263: ministerial majority, 13.

On Monday, April 14th, the *St. Alban's Election Committee* reported that Mr. Jacob Bell was duly elected; but as they had been prevented from obtaining necessary evidence as to the improper practices alleged to have been carried on at the St. Alban's election, they recommended a commission for inquiring into the circumstances. Subsequently a debate took place on the consideration of the committee's proceedings in regard to Henry Edwards, the result of which was a division on the question of adjourning the discussion until Tuesday. Such adjournment (advocated by government) was carried by 108 to 87, majority 21.

The house then went into committee on *The Assessed Taxes Act*. The resolutions proposed by the CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER for abolishing the window tax, and for imposing, in substitution for it, the new house tax, were (after considerable conversational discussion, and the withdrawal by Sir B. Hall of his threatened opposition to the latter tax) agreed to.

The house resumed, and immediately went into committee on *The Timber and Coffee Duties Act*.—Mr. BARING argued against the proposed abolition of the differential duties on coffee, as did Mr. PRINSEP, who complained of the injury which the measure would inflict upon the coffee growers in Ceylon.—The CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER replied, contending that the only effect of the duties was to exclude a valuable kind of coffee, and that the abolition would not injure the colonial producer, inasmuch as we already imported more coffee than we consumed at home.—Mr. STANLEY spoke at some length in favour of protective duties, and argued that it was impossible for our colonists to compete with the slave labour of Brazil.—Mr. LABOUCHERE said that to yield to the latter argument would be to reverse our whole system of commercial policy.—Mr. WAKLEY strongly urged upon the government to prevent the adulteration of coffee, by withdrawing the minute of 1840, suspending the Excise regulation upon the subject. He gave a medical opinion that chicory was a pernicious article, and demanded protection for the honest trader against the adulterator. Other hon. members urged the same view of the subject. The Chancellor of the Exchequer had had medical authority the other way, and not believing chicory to be deleterious, could not agree to the suggestions made to him. The resolutions of the Chancellor of the Exchequer were then agreed to, and the house resumed.

On the motion for going into committee of supply, Sir D. L. EVANS called the attention of the house to the *Ornamenting of the New House of Commons*, which he said had been persisted in by Mr. Barry in opposition to the declared wishes of the house.—Mr. GREENE explained that, although it was his impression that Mr. Barry had understood the feeling of the house to be opposed to the decorations complained of, it appeared that the architect himself did not admit such an understanding. Some of the ornamental work had been

completed, and it had not been thought desirable to remove this, but orders had been given for discontinuing all further decoration.—THE CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER said that he had been much surprised at finding that Mr. Barry had been ornamenting the house, which it had been intended should be perfectly plain; and he added that he had given positive orders on the subject the very day he ascertained the fact.—Sir D. NORREYS defended Mr. Barry, remarking upon the absurdity of preventing his affixing such ornaments as were required by the medieval style of the building.—Colonel RAWDON read a statement from Mr. Barry, denying that he had knowingly acted in opposition to the wishes of the house, but insisting that all the decorations he had desired to add were absolutely necessary to the architectural character of the edifice. The gallant Colonel protested against the imputations against the professional character of Mr. Barry contained in the notice of Sir De Lacy Evans.—Various other members addressed the house upon the subject, which then dropped.

The house then went into committee of supply upon the *Army Estimates*, and the various votes for the "non-effective" services were taken.

On Tuesday, April 15th, Mr. ADDERLEY moved an address to her Majesty, praying the appointment of a Commission with instructions to proceed to South Africa, to inquire and report as to the best mode of adjusting the *Relations between this Country and the Kaffir tribes*. He observed that for the last two years, there had been no regular government at the Cape of Good Hope, and that the governor there had exerted an entirely despotic power. Our attempt at the administration of the colony had utterly failed. He entered into an examination of the conduct of Sir Harry Smith, glancing at the recent rebellion, and the undignified escape of Sir Harry from the rebels, describing him as just as much a prisoner as ever, with the important difference that he was now shut up with 5000 men. Describing this Kaffir war as different from any previous one, inasmuch as it was a war, not for plunder, but for the recovery of territory, he said that the fault of our method of dealing with the Kaffir tribes was that it was neither the coercive policy which should restrain them, nor the civilising policy which should conciliate them, but an unfortunate mixture of the two systems. It was difficult to say which system should be adopted, but there could be no doubt that a policy partaking of both must fail, and there could be also no doubt that such mingled policy was at present that of Earl Grey. In advocating his proposal, he said that he strenuously opposed that of Lord John Russell, on account of the delay it would cause, adding that, though Sir W. Molesworth's plan was very simple, it would occasion injustice towards many individuals whose interests were bound up with our present system. He concluded by moving the above-mentioned address.—Lord J. RUSSELL referred to the various important periods in the history of the Cape colony to show that the policy we had adopted towards the Kaffirs had been the necessary result of the principle of self-preservation. Paying a tribute to the military and general talents of Sir Harry Smith, his lordship said that he, like his predecessors, had been sedulously endeavouring to find a remedy against the mischievous incursions of the frontier tribes. The misplaced boundary of the colony had been one great reason why these incursions had been often too successful; but the Dutch, the original proprietors, had established an organised system of defence, which, however, had been too indiscriminate in its severity against the natives. This system had been disallowed by the government of Lord Stanley, but on that occasion the colonists had urged that if that system were to be abolished they should be permitted to frame another, or else that the imperial government should itself defend them from savage incursions. He referred to the sanguinary incidents of the administration of Sir B. d'Urban as a proof that what had recently taken place was neither novel, nor could be legitimately brought forward as a charge against the government, and added that Sir B. d'Urban had advised the extension of the frontier. He traced the steps which had been taken in regard to an abandonment of the new frontier, and to treaties with

the native chiefs, under the administration of Lord Glenelg, and adverted to the troubles which had been the almost continuous consequence, alluding to the vigorous measures which Sir Peregrine Maitland had found it necessary to adopt. Sir H. Pottinger had pursued the same policy, but, like Sir H. Smith, he had endeavoured to govern the Kaffirs through their chiefs. He followed up the argument that Sir H. Smith had only trodden in the steps of his predecessors; he commented upon the different alternations of policy which had been suggested to government; and defended the course which had been adopted as that which offered the greatest possibility of security combined with humanity. But the circumstances which had occurred fully justified his intended recommendation that a committee be appointed to inquire into the question. He conceived that there were numerous persons in England qualified to give the necessary information. The committee might suggest a commission to the colony, as proposed by Mr. Adderley, but he thought it would be premature to propose such a commission in the present stage. He therefore moved, as an amendment to Mr. Adderley's motion, that a select committee be appointed to inquire into the relations between this country and the Kaffir and other tribes on our South African frontier.—Mr. V. SMITH objected to both motions, conceiving the subject to be entirely one for the consideration of the executive government. At the same time he contended that our system must be changed, for we had made no progress whatever in civilising or conciliating the natives.—Mr. P. SCOTT supported Lord John Russell's amendment. He condemned the "Bombastes Furioso policy" of Sir H. Smith, and said he considered Lord John Russell's amendment as amounting to a censure upon the colonial policy we had hitherto pursued.—Mr. MACKINNON defended Sir H. Smith, and dwelt upon the difficulties of his position between barbarism and civilisation.—Mr. GLADSTONE said that such difficulties were great, no doubt, but might be successfully dealt with. One of his objections to the appointment of a committee upon such a subject as this, was, that it removed responsibility from the shoulders of the executive, upon which it ought to rest. Besides this objection, there was that of the delay which would be caused by referring the matter to a committee, by which means it would be kept in suspense for a couple of years, only to be the subject of debate at last. Experience did not testify in favour of select committees as a machinery for bringing colonies into a desirable condition, and he should regard such a step in the present case as a step in the wrong direction. Such questions as those which recent events had raised should be discussed in the localities in which they had originated. The most scandalous corruption prevailed in the management of the Cape war, which was a fruitful source of demoralisation; and the responsibility of such wars should lie with the parties interested in them. Appeals might be made, on the ground of humanity, against the proposed policy; but he had yet to learn that the colonists were not perfectly well able to defend themselves. If they should prove to be unable, this country would gladly help them. The only rational plan for making a colony vigorous and self-relying was the founding it in freedom, and the giving its government into its own hands. He thought the bribe of a military expenditure a miserable resource upon which to rely for securing the attachment of colonists, and for preventing the apprehended dismemberment of the empire.—Lord MANDEVILLE supported Lord J. Russell's amendment, thinking inquiry might be advantageous.—Colonel THOMPSON expressed his opinion that we had ill-treated the African semi-barbarians.—Sir E. N. BUXTON objected to the withdrawal of imperial interference from the colony, as the result would be that the Kaffirs would be "eaten up." He regretted that Lord Glenelg's policy of justice and conciliation had not been adhered to, and believed that, by leaving the Boers to deal with the natives, expense would not be lightened, and cruelty would be greatly increased.—Mr. LOEBUCK ridiculed the arguments of Sir E. Buxton, and declared, unhesitatingly, that wherever the Anglo-Saxon came, an inferior man must and ought to vanish from before him, for that he came to plant a

nation of higher intelligence. But it was nonsense to talk about "justice" (as it was understood by civilised men) in connexion with such a matter. He went on to say, that the Cape colony had nothing to do with British Caffraria, except that the governor of the former happened to be the chief commissioner of the latter; and therefore the question of colonial government was not to the present purpose. He advised English people not to be deluded by the idea of amalgamating two breeds which could never mix; but he wished that the Anglo-Saxon settler should, as in America and elsewhere, be allowed to deal with the aboriginal savage. He reproached the government with an inclination to abnegate its own policy, and to violate the principle that the executive, and not the house, was to govern the empire.

—Mr. LABOUCHERE, in reply to Mr. Gladstone and Mr. Roebuck, reminded the house that the course now proposed by government was no new one, and he referred to instances in Mr. Haskisson's time, and since, in which the assistance of committees had been asked in considering colonial interests. He went on to say that there was a sacred duty imposed upon parliament and the government, wherever two races came into collision, to restrain the passions of both, and to do their best for preventing the colonial possession in question from being plunged into blood and strife. Government did not shrink from doing its duty to the colonies, which it was at this very time endeavouring to discharge, nor could it wish for this committee be fairly construed into a desire to get quit of its responsibility.—Mr. HUME said that the speech of Mr. Labouchere was at direct variance with candour, because the very precedents upon which he had relied had occurred in times when a colonial policy was practised which government now affected to set aside, in favour of the system of colonial self-government. He demanded why the deputy sent over by the Cape had been allowed to remain four months in England without his being able to get a hearing from the government on the subject of the constitution of the colony? He hoped that the house would not agree to the appointment of a committee, simply for the sake of shelving the subject, and he expressed his conviction that the proposed commission would be advantageous.

—Mr. J. BELL (in a maiden speech) protested against Mr. Roebuck's argument, which, he said, violated all the principles of Christianity. If superior civilisation were to be the perpetual justification of violence, who was to decide where really superior civilisation lay? He could not assent to a policy of blood, especially as he understood that the savages were willing to sell their lands for a very moderate price.—Mr. S. HERBERT, in reply to Mr. Labouchere, denied the apishness of any of the instances cited by that gentleman of appointment of committees on colonial matters; nor did he think that any of the committees appointed by governments had afforded much hope of a real solution of the difficulties submitted. And he did not consider this a case in which a committee was called for. A war was actually raging, and the executive at the Cape ought to be left unshackled in its action, unless that action was to be directed by the plainest and most unmistakable instructions from home. A committee could not know what would be actually going on, and might lead to serious impediments to the public service. He thought Mr. Adderley's proposition less objectionable than Lord John Russell's, but he should vote against both.—Mr. BOOKER thought that ministers had upon this occasion shown becoming vigour and manliness, and declared that they should have his vote.—Mr. HAWES, in reply to Mr. S. Herbert, denied that any injury could be done to the Cape colony by the appointment of the committee. Dwelling upon the advantage of such an investigation as was proposed, he said that its results would be to show that our policy at the Cape had neither been one of weakness nor of extermination. He declared that, thanks to Sir H. Smith, civilisation was progressing in our African possessions, while due protection was being afforded to the aboriginal inhabitants. And he asked the house to give permission to the government to prove this before the committee.—Mr. ADDERLEY briefly replied.—The house divided, and the numbers were, for Mr. Adderley's motion, 59; against it, 129; majority against it, 70.—Lord J. Russell's amendment

having thus become the substantive motion, the house divided again, and the numbers were, for Lord J. Russell's amendment, 128; against it, 60; majority for the select committee, 68.

Mr. MONSELL drew attention to the *Mortality in the Kibruah and Ennistymon Unions*, in the latter of which, in two weeks, there had been 253 deaths out of 3593 persons—a proportion unexampled, he said, in the history of charitable institutions in this country.—Lord J. RUSSELL said, every means that could be adopted to remedy this state of things had been taken by the commissioners, who had ascertained that sufficient diet was provided for the inmates of the unions; but he was sorry to say that, from the condition of the persons who entered the workhouses, great mortality could not be prevented.

The consideration of the petition of Edwards, committed by the *St. Albans' Election Committee* for keeping out of the way witnesses who, it was alleged, could prove improper conduct on the part of the agents of Mr. Jacob Bell, was gone into, and the result was that Edwards was committed to Newgate.

Lord MAHON called attention to a subject connected with Ireland, the *Publication at the National Expense of School-books*, which was considered to be an undue interference with private competition, a grievance to the publishing trade, and an especial grievance to many deserving men who had produced by their own means publications for the use of schools. He then went over the facts connected with the applications made by Messrs. Murray and Longman on the subject.—Lord J. RUSSELL said the subject was one which came properly under the consideration of the committee of privy council on Education; and immediately on receiving the first letter of Messrs. Longman, he had asked the president of the council, whenever the committee should meet, to allow him to bring the subject under their consideration. It was brought under their consideration; and the arrangement agreed to by the committee of privy council was, that it was desirable not to publish any books here, but to treat with different publishers, in different parts of the country, with respect to school books, in order that they might be enabled to afford those books as cheaply as possible to the schools applying for them. The committee had corresponded with a great many different publishers; and the result was that the publications which they obtained were obtained with their consent. With regard to Great Britain, they had not published any works, nor had any offers been made for copyrights. Therefore the whole question resolved itself into this, whether they had given any undue advantage to the commissioners of education in Ireland; and on this point he must be allowed to look into the question before giving a further answer.—The house, at its rising, adjourned to Monday the 28th inst.

PROGRESS OF BUSINESS.

House of Lords.—April 1st.—Royal Assent given to Consolidated Fund Bill.—Vice-Chancellor's Bill.—Commons Enclosure Bill, and Passengers Act Amendment Bill.

7th.—Apprentices and Servants Bill read a second time.

8th.—County Courts Extension Bill in committee.

11th.—Royal Assent to the Mutiny Bills.—County Courts Extension Bill read a third time.—Patent Law Amendment Bills referred to a select committee.—Law of Evidence Amendment Bill read a second time.

14th.—Church Building Act read a second time.—Adjournment for the Easter recess to Thursday the 1st of May.

House of Commons.—April 1st.—Leave given Mr. B. Cochrane to bring in a Bill respecting Farm-buildings Money Advances.

—Mutiny Bill passed through committee.—Medical Charities (Ireland) Bill read a second time.—Acts of Parliament Abbreviation Act Repeal Bill read a second time.

2nd.—Compound Householders Bill considered in committee.—Mr. Locke King's Franchise Bill thrown out on second reading.—Railway Audit Bill read a second time.

3rd.—Aylesbury Election Committee; Mr. Calvert unseated for treating; New Writ ordered for Aylesbury.—East India Company, Mr. Anstey's motion for a Commission of Inquiry debated, and withdrawn.—Jewish Disabilities, Lord John Russell's Resolution for a Bill carried on a division.

4th.—Amended Budget, Sir C. Wood's statement.—Acts of Parliament Abbreviation Act Repeal Bill passed through committee.

7th.—St. Alban's Election Committee; Evasion of Witnesses reported.—Income Tax, Mr. Herries' Amendment negatived by 278 to 230.—Exchequer Chamber (Ireland) Bill in committee.

8th.—St. Alban's Election Committee; Arrest of evading Witnesses ordered.—Church Rates; a Select Committee appointed on motion of Mr. Trelawny.—State of Ireland; Sir W. Barron's motion for a Committee of the whole House negatived by 138 to 129.

9th.—Smithfield Market; second reading of the Corporation Bill negatived by 246 to 124; second reading of the Government Bill carried by 230 to 65, and Bill referred to a select committee.—Expenses of Prosecutions Bill, and Compound Householders Bill, in committee.—Annual Indemnity Bill read a first time.

10th.—Colonial Expenditure; Debate on Sir W. Molesworth's Resolutions begun and adjourned.

11th.—Agricultural Distress; Mr. Disraeli's Resolution negatived by 263 to 250.

14th.—St. Alban's Election; Report of committee received that Mr. Bell was duly elected.—Income Tax Bill, second reading postponed till after Easter.—Assessed Taxes Bill considered in committee; Resolutions for a new House Tax agreed to.—Coffee and Timber Duties Bill considered in committee.—Expenses of Prosecutions Bill read a third time and passed.

15th.—St. Alban's Election Edwards, charged with keeping Witnesses out of the way, committed to Newgate.—Relations with the Kafirs; motion for a Royal Commission negatived; motion for a Select Committee carried.—Adjournment till Monday the 28th inst.

A Political Banquet was given to Lord Stanley on the 2nd inst. at Merchant Tailors' Hall. The requisition to Lord Stanley to accept it was signed by about 100 peers and 200 members of the House of Commons. Mr. Thomas Baring, M.P. for Huntingdon, presided; and the company numbered about 280. Lord Stanley, on his health being given, entered at great length into the present state of public affairs. He declared himself to have been a firm adherent of Sir Robert Peel's liberal policy, and a supporter of that statesman's judicious relaxation of our commercial code up to "the fatal period of 1845 and 1846," when Sir Robert, by the measures he then adopted, gave a shock to confidence in all public men, and shattered the great Conservative party which it had been his policy to build up. After paying a warm tribute to the memory of Lord George Bentinck, Lord Stanley touched on the condition of parties in the House of Commons. "There is, no doubt, a very considerable majority against us in the existing House of Commons; and I confess that, constituted as the present House of Commons is, I see no escape from the position in which we are now placed; for, whoever may hold the reins of office, there will be a weak government, at the mercy of a majority who cannot combine for any useful purpose, but who can always combine for the purpose of destroying any government. Gentlemen, I know no position more dangerous to the public welfare than such a position as that which I have described; when the government of the day is obliged to catch at support here and at a stray vote there, to concede this point and to abandon that measure, and then to promise some distant scheme, and hope to stave off the adverse motion of a *soi-disant* supporter by vague promises of something to be done at a future time, or at the spur of the moment, can issue an illegal commission to inquire into the Universities, for the purpose of getting rid of an awkward motion which it dares not support. This is the situation in which a weak government is placed now, and always will be placed; and it is the situation in which, I fear, with the present House of Commons, any government attempting to hold the reins of power must for a considerable space of time be placed. Gentlemen, it is for the country to remedy this great national evil. It is for the country to halt between two opinions. It is for the country to say in whom they have confidence and in whom they have not." Lord Stanley then adverted to his own views of sound policy at the present time. "I deprecate hasty and ill-considered and violent changes; and in this course of downward progress in which we are involved, though true prudence and true statesmanship point, I think, not to the hasty reversal of all that has been done, I would at all events cry, 'Halt!' in that downward course. I would say, watch the progress that has already taken place; modify the effect of measures, if they have had a greater effect than even their proposers contemplated; and prudently, discreetly, but firmly and determinedly, apply on sound principles legislative relief to those classes which your

legislative action has made to suffer. How that relief may be afforded, this is not the time to consider." He had nothing to add to his recent statement in Parliament on this head. "My own views undoubtedly are, that there is no course so simple and effective for removing agricultural distress, and at the same time for returning to a sounder system, as, by the imposition of moderate duties on foreign imports, at once to afford a certain though moderate check to the unlimited influx of those foreign articles, when they are not required in this country; and, at the same time, to obtain from the foreigner, in imitation of all other nations, a contribution towards the revenue of the state, and to enable us to take off other taxes which press more heavily and immediately on the springs of our domestic and national industry." On the subject of the Papal aggression, Lord Stanley said: "I desire an immediate and peremptory reply by Parliament to the actual insult, and subsequently an inquiry as to the legislation which might be necessary for the purpose of placing the Roman Catholic subjects of the queen in a position which would at once secure their own civil and religious rights—nay, which might even extend them, and, at the same time, secure the people of this country, whether Protestants or Roman Catholics, from any interference with their temporal concerns, and from the control of an ecclesiastical hierarchy appointed by a foreign power. It may be well to say that the authority of Rome is a spiritual authority. I don't call that a spiritual authority which acts on the tender consciences of infant girls, and the superstitious fears of the death-bed, for the purpose of robbing heirs and relations. Still less do I consider it to be an authority essential to the free exercise of religion to prohibit acts in themselves legal, or enjoin acts if not illegal, at all events in violation of the express and determined will of the legislature, under those awful penalties which the Roman Catholic Church holds over and has power to exercise over the minds of those of its persuasion. I say, then, that the majority upon that principle was not unimportant. But I say, further, that I consider it the duty of Parliament, and I trust I shall consider it my duty, while I do not press for a more extensive application of measures than those which the government themselves have thought fit to institute, in the first instance, to take care in Parliament, as far as I can, that that which the government professes to check we really shall give them the power to check. I certainly shall not be satisfied if I do not see that that which the government professes to make effectual shall be really and substantially effectual." In conclusion, Lord Stanley appealed to the constituencies. "I have said that I look with anxiety to the present state of this country. I look also with anxiety to the future: but the degree to which that anxiety may be removed depends upon you in your places in Parliament; it depends upon you in your respective neighbourhoods throughout this country; it depends upon the constituencies of this country; and, in their hands, whenever a general election shall come—and all the signs of the times show that that election cannot be far distant—in their hands will be the destinies of this country for good or for evil, for a length of time which it is impossible to predict."

The committee on the *Aylesbury Election* decided, on the 3rd, that Mr. F. Calvert was not duly elected, and that he was, by his agents, guilty of treating at the last election, but that it was not proved that the acts of treating were done with his knowledge. The committee further found that a practice prevailed in the borough of Aylesbury at the last election of issuing printed tickets for refreshment to the extent of 5s. each to voters, both before and after the polling. The election was, therefore, declared void.

The Committee on the *St. Alban's Election* concluded their sittings on the 14th. At the late contest for that borough, Mr. Bell had 276 votes and Mr. Carden 147. Mr. Bell consequently became the sitting member, but his return was petitioned against on the ground of bribery. There were nine cases of bribery; four of which the committee went through; but they were prevented from investigating the others by the necessary witnesses having absconded; warrants were issued for their apprehension, but to no purpose; and on the

day above mentioned the committee closed its proceedings by agreeing in a report to the house, that Mr. Bell had been duly elected; that, owing to their utter inability to procure the attendance of witnesses, they were wholly unable to investigate the case with the closeness it demanded; that the committee had reason to believe that a system of gross bribery and corruption has prevailed at the late and preceding elections for St. Alban's, and they therefore recommended the issue of a Royal Commission to inquire into the bribery and corruption alleged. On the same evening the report was received and entered on the journals of the house.

A great meeting of the *Manchester Financial and Parliamentary Reform Association* was held in the Free Trade Hall on the 16th, when Mr. Milner Gibson and Mr. Bright, the two members for Manchester, delivered their sentiments on the present state of public affairs, and on the principles which governed their own parliamentary conduct. Their speeches were most cordially received; a resolution of thanks was adopted, for the zeal, talent, and faithfulness which they had on all occasions shown; and the meeting pledged itself to use all legal and proper measures for their return at the next election.

An address has been issued to the clergy of the provinces of Canterbury and York, on the subject of *Ritual Observances*. It is signed by the Primate, the Archbishop of York, and twenty-two of the bishops, the names of four of the episcopal body, viz. the Bishops of Exeter, Bath, and Wells, Hereford, and Manchester, not being appended to the document. The address, which is of a persuasive character, rather than one enjoining obedience, places before the clergy the following considerations, in treating of Ritual Observances:

"First, that any change of usages with which the religious feelings of a congregation have become associated is in itself so likely to do harm, that it is not to be introduced without the greatest caution; secondly, that beyond this, any change which makes it difficult for the congregation at large to join in the service is still more to be avoided; thirdly, that any change which suggests the fear of still further alteration is most injurious; and, fourthly, that according to the rule laid down in the Book of Common Prayer, where anything is doubted or diversely taken concerning the manner how to understand, do, and execute the things contained in that book, the parties that so doubt or diversely take anything shall always resort to the bishop of the diocese, who by his discretion shall take order for the quieting and appeasing of the same, so that the same order be not contrary to anything contained in that book."

The bishops signing the address believe that the fair application of these principles would solve most of the difficulties which have arisen, and they urge upon their rev. brethren the adoption of this rule of conduct. But they say, beyond mere attempts to restore an unequal strictness of ritual observance, they have to deal with a serious evil.

"A principle has of late been avowed and acted on, which, if admitted, would justify far greater and more uncertain changes. It is this—that as the Church of England is the ancient Catholic Church, settled in this land before the Reformation, and was then reformed only by the casting away of certain strictly defined corruptions; therefore, whatever form or usage existed in the church before its reformation may now be freely introduced and observed, unless there can be alleged against it the distinct letter of some formal prohibition."

Against this inference the bishops protest, believing that at the Reformation the English Church not only rejected certain corruptions, but also, without in any degree severing her connexion with the ancient Catholic Church, intended to establish one uniform ritual, according to which her public services should be conducted. They, therefore, beseech any who may have proposed to themselves the restoration of what, under sanction of this principle, they deemed a lawful system, to consider the dangers which it involves; whilst with equal earnestness they beseech others who, either by intentional omission, or by neglect and laxity, may have disturbed the uniformity and weakened the authority of the prescribed ritual, to strengthen the side of order by

avoiding all unnecessary deviations from the Church's rule. Such harmony of action, they are persuaded, would go far towards restoring the peace of the Church. —This address, it appears, originated in a letter from the Home Secretary to the Archbishop of Canterbury, transmitting, by the Queen's commands, an address received by Her Majesty from 230,000 lay-members of the Church of England. In this letter, which is dated the 1st of April, Sir G. Grey says:

"Her Majesty places full confidence in your Grace's desire to use such means as are within your power to maintain the purity of the doctrines taught by the clergy of the Established Church, and to discourage and prevent innovations in the modes of conducting the services of the Church not sanctioned by law or general usage, and calculated to create dissatisfaction and alarm among a numerous body of its members. I am therefore commanded to place this address in your Grace's hands, and to request that it may be communicated to the Archbishop of York and to the Suffragan Bishops in England and Wales, who, Her Majesty does not doubt, will concur with your Grace in the endeavour, by a judicious exercise of their authority and influence, to uphold the purity and simplicity of the faith and worship of our Reformed Church, and to reconcile differences among its members injurious to its peace and usefulness."

The Bishop of Exeter has published a *Pastoral Letter* to the clergy of his diocese, in which, after maintaining with his usual vehemence the extreme High-church doctrines to which he is known to hold, he announces his intention to hold a *Diocesan Synod*. Immediately after the close of his visitation, the clergy are to meet him "in a Diocesan Synod at the cathedral city," and "express or refuse their concurrence" with him in a "declaration" that they adhere faithfully and at every hazard to the article of the Creed, "I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins," which was virtually denied when the Queen decided as she did in the Gorham case. He wishes further to obtain their counsel on other matters affecting the Church and the diocese. Anticipating legal objections, he has obtained the very highest legal authority, that as the Synod would not attempt, or indeed wish to make canons, binding even on themselves, there will be "no doubt of the entire lawfulness of such an assembly;" and this entire legality will not be imperilled by the fact that "the Synod will be *representatives* elected by the clergy of the different deaneries"—for that point was brought under the special notice of his legal advisers. In explaining the nature and functions of this Convocation, he says: "As the Synod is in the nature of a Council of the Bishop, it is plain that no Resolution can be deemed an *Act* of the Synod which has not his concurrence."

The Rev. Mr. BLEW, Minister of the Church of St. John, at Gravesend, has been *suspended for six months* by the Bishop of Rochester, for having subscribed an address to Dr. Wiseman, got up by certain clergymen of the High Church party, in which those whose names are attached regret the manner in which he has been received in England; address him as "Your Eminence," express respect for his person and office as a "bishop of the Church of God;" and state that the "clamour of the many" in his case "is not to be regarded as the unequivocal voice of religion and of the Church of England."

NARRATIVE OF LAW AND CRIME.

THE case of *Miss Augusta Talbot* was disposed of by the Lord Chancellor, on the 18th inst., when his Lordship gave judgment on the two petitions of the Rev. Dr. Doyle and Mr. Craven Berkeley. [See *Household Narrative* for last month, p. 64.] Dr. Doyle's petition prayed that Miss Talbot might be allowed, during the absence of the Earl and Countess of Shrewsbury abroad, to remain under the charge of some proper person, to be approved of by the court during the approaching season of 1851; that an additional allowance of 1500*l.* might be made for her maintenance; and, if necessary, that it be referred to the Master to approve of a scheme as to her residence.

Mr. Berkeley's petition alleged that the Countess of Shrewsbury had exercised an undue influence over Miss Talbot, and had endeavoured to induce her to marry a Frenchman named Rochefoucault; that Miss Talbot had persisted in refusing, and that thereupon the Countess had sent back Miss Talbot to the convent, not as a pupil, but as a postulant, with the avowed object of compelling her to take the veil; and it prayed that Miss Talbot might be removed from under the care and management of the Earl and Countess of Shrewsbury. Before the Lord Chancellor gave judgment, the case had been fully argued before him during several successive days. The letter which, at the commencement of the proceedings, his Lordship alluded to as having been received by him from Miss Talbot, was as follows. It is said to have been written in the round hand of a school-girl, on ruled paper, and underscored in the manner indicated by small capitals:—

"Taunton, Tuesday, Feb. 18.

"My Lord—You will, of course, see that I have written in answer to Mr. Craven Berkeley's FALSE statements, and I am sure in such a case you will think it only just for me to express myself what is the pure truth, as I have done. It is scarcely credible how a GENTLEMAN can act as Mr. Craven Berkeley has done; for I assure you, my Lord, he was down here at the convent himself on the 14th February. He then asked me a numerous SET FORK of questions, as if he had some object in view, but wished to get a little information beforehand; and at his departure he said he should come again and bring with him a little HALF-SISTER of mine. No opposition was made, for how could we know how Mr. Craven Berkeley intended to act? but after the manner in which he has spoken of the convent at Taunton, where I have spent the happiest days of my life, and where I have experienced for nine years the most unchanging kindness, how could I read his petition and not feel a just indignation at such conduct? so that it is now, my Lord, my own free and deliberate wish never again to see Mr. Craven Berkeley: should I meet him anywhere he would not surely be the first to address me, and most assuredly I should not. He has disgraced himself for ever in my eyes, and I should think in the eyes of every just and reasonable person. Believe me, my Lord, I ALONE in this house have shown any feelings of indignation; for all under this roof are too good to let any feeling rise but that which every one must naturally feel, compassion for so WEAK AND DISHONOURABLE a man. This letter your Lordship is at liberty to show to whom you please. I do not feel to have said more than I ought. I may have spoken strongly of Mr. C. Berkeley's conduct, but I have not passed the limits of truth and justice. I must add, that every word of the letter is FROM MYSELF. I am alone while writing it, and therefore no one can allege that I have been prompted by any one. Every word is the result of my own thoughts and reflections. Mr. Norris, whom I saw on Monday, told me of your Lordship's wish that I should go up to town again and see a little more of the world. It will cost as much, CERTAINLY, to LEAVE TAUNTON, where are all my dearest and truest friends; but your Lordship acts for the best, and I would not therefore on any account oppose your wishes. After Easter I shall be ready to yield myself, and again enter a world, WHOSE CHARMS I CAN NEVER VALUE.—Thanking your Lordship for the kind interest you have taken in my welfare,

"I remain, yours respectfully, AUGUSTA TALBOT."

Mr. Berkeley, in an affidavit subsequently filed, swore to his belief that Miss Talbot was trepanned into writing the above letter by Dr. Hendren, the Roman Catholic Bishop of Clifton. The affidavit of Miss Jerrieham, the Lady Superior of the convent, explained the ambiguous position of Miss Talbot: she was admitted among the postulants, because of the rule that she could not be readmitted as a boarder; but she was not a postulant; she never underwent the ceremonies of postulancy, nor wore the postulant's attire; and she was free to leave the convent when she liked. Her admission among the postulants was exceptionally conceded, with the ecclesiastical permission of Dr. Hendren.

The Lord Chancellor, in giving judgment, entered minutely into the circumstances of the case. He declared his opinion that in the first instance the Countess of Shrewsbury was competent to judge on the propriety of placing Miss Talbot in the convent. But since the young lady had been into the world and her prospects had otherwise changed, and since it became uncertain how long the Earl and Countess would remain absent from this country, Dr. Doyle ought to have exercised greater diligence in his care over his ward. Dr. Doyle had been remiss in not applying to the Court till an intimation was lately made as to the propriety of his so doing; especially when he became aware that the mind of the young lady was "wavering,"

and that it was becoming uncertain whether she would not become a nun. A very high contempt of the authority of the Court would have been committed by allowing a ward of Court, either to become a postulant or to take any other step calculated to bind her future life to any particular course. He believed that ever since the statute of Westminster it had been a very high offence to make a ward of Court take the veil—an offence liable to indictment, heavy forfeiture, and imprisonment. That statute continued. If a marriage were contracted without the approbation of the Court, it was a contempt of the Court: *à fortiori*, much more so was it to make persons devote themselves to a religious life: marriage was consistent with persons retaining their ordinary position in life, but taking the veil was so serious a change, that to allow a person not arrived at the age of maturity to bind the future life, not probably by actual vows, but by some influence or other more cogent than physical force, was a much greater offence; and the Lord Chancellor declared that he should have no hesitation, and should have felt it his duty, to commit bishops, priests, governesses, clergymen, or any one else who should be connected with such a transaction. But no bad motives could be imputed to Dr. Doyle, as he seemed to have been under the impression that the young lady was in the convent as a boarder; and therefore the interests of the ward did not require his removal. In reference to Mr. Craven Berkeley's petition, the Lord Chancellor felt that upon the whole it had been of great advantage to the ward. But the most material statements in that petition were incorrect. The Lord Chancellor had ascertained from his personal conversation with Miss Talbot, when he visited Alton Towers, that the marriage then on the carpet was not regarded with personal repugnance by Miss Talbot; and when it was broken off, chiefly from the Lord Chancellor's own disapproval of it, Miss Talbot expressed her resignation in terms not consistent with the notion of the alleged repugnance. The matter thus charged in Mr. Berkeley's petition was of a character deeply reflecting on other parties, and was unfounded in fact. In that point of view solely, the petition might be dismissed with costs; but the petition had been the means of rendering a great and worthy service to the Court and to the ward. The order of the Court, therefore, was, that Mr. Berkeley's petition be dismissed, and that the costs of both parties be paid out of the estate.

Three young women, the servants of a maltster named Miller, at March, in the Isle of Ely, having been detected in pilfering some flour, and threatened with dismissal if the offence was repeated, attempted to commit *Suicide* by taking laudanum. One of them accomplished her purpose, and was found dead under a hedge; the other two had taken more laudanum than the deceased, and voided it,—hence they recovered. They have since been committed for trial for "Wilful murder," on the charge of having incited their companion to commit suicide.

The trial of Levi Harwood, Samuel Harwood, and James Jones, for the *Murder of the Rev. Mr. Hollest*, at Frimley, in September last, took place at the Kingston Assizes, on the 31st ult. and 1st inst. The circumstances are fully detailed in the *Household Narrative* for October last. The principal witnesses were Mrs. Hollest, the widow of Mr. Hollest, and Hiram Smith, one of the criminals, who had been admitted as approver. Mrs. Hollest swore positively that Smith was the man who fired the pistol-shot which caused her husband's death. The jury, after two hours' deliberation, found Levi Harwood and James Jones guilty, and acquitted Samuel Harwood; declaring their unanimous opinion that neither Levi Harwood nor Jones fired the fatal shot. Levi Harwood and Jones earnestly protested their innocence of the murder. Baron Parke explained to them, that though neither of them fired the shot, they had both intended to fire in case of resistance, and were therefore rightly found guilty of the murder. He sentenced them to be hanged, and with great emotion besought them to repent. Samuel Harwood, on being discharged from custody, was at once arrested on the charge of being concerned in a burglary committed in Sussex. Hiram Smith was kept in custody awaiting

her Majesty's pleasure with regard to him. Levi Harwood and Jones were executed on the 15th. They made a confession, in which they stated that the fatal shot was fired by Levi Harwood, but without the intention of murder.

At the Liverpool Assizes, on the 31st ult., Patrick Lyons and Bridget Lyons his wife, were tried for the *Murder of Peggy Fahey*, at Warrington, on the 4th of February. The prisoners, who are Irish, kept a lodging house, and Peggy Fahey, a travelling pedlar, was their lodger. It appears that the contents of her basket of wares had excited the cupidity of Lyons and his wife, and that they had murdered her early in the morning, when she was preparing to go out, by striking her on the head with a hatchet. Suspicion having arisen, the house was searched, and her dead body was found in a closet, together with her basket, and a butcher's cleaver with which the murder had been committed. The woman was immediately taken into custody, but the man had fled, and was traced to Dublin, where before he was apprehended, he had enlisted in the East India Company's service, and had been passed by the Surgeon. The prisoners were both convicted, and the judge pronounced sentence of death upon them. The woman has since received a reprieve.

At the Taunton Assizes on the 4th, John Wiles was indicted for the wilful *Murder of William Wilkins*, and John Smith was charged with aiding and abetting him. It appeared, from the evidence, that the two prisoners first came to the house of the deceased, who kept a small shop, on the pretence of buying a loaf of bread, and afterwards returned to obtain money there, when they both attacked the deceased and his wife with a spade and an Italian iron, leaving the old woman for dead, and then assailing her husband, who shortly afterwards died of the wounds he received. Foot-marks were seen; they were followed, and at length the prisoners, who had shortly before the murder been seen together in the neighbourhood, were discovered together. On one was found the knife, on both money, which each admitted was taken from the old woman. The jury returned a verdict of guilty against both prisoners, and sentence of death was passed upon them. They were executed on the 22nd.

George Carnt was tried at the Gloucester Assizes for the *Murder of Elizabeth Bainbridge*. Carnt was a labourer, aged twenty-three; Elizabeth Bainbridge was a young woman of respectable family, married to a husband who had deserted her. She was a well-favoured, modest woman, esteemed by the people of Laweshall, where she and the prisoner lived. Some weeks since, they were seen walking in a field along a footpath, which was in their way to be traversed frequently; and were observed to be laughing to each other. Further on, they were seen by other persons standing near a stile, "talking kindly" with each other. They were no more seen together, and Elizabeth Bainbridge was never again seen alive. Near to the stile is a pond, and in the evening shrieks were heard in the direction of that pond. Later in the evening, Carnt returned to the house of Elizabeth's brother-in-law, alone, wet, dirty, haggard, and wildly excited; with a bare head and neck. He exclaimed—"The halter is ready for me!" and being asked to drink, said, "I shall never drink again." Search was made for Elizabeth, and her corpse was found in the pond. There had evidently been a struggle on the brink; the young woman had been dragged into the pond and drowned; and then the murderer had waded across, and climbed the opposite bank. In the bosom of the victim was found the watch and chain of Carnt, and in the pocket of Carnt was found the wedding-ring of the deceased. The hat and neckerchief of Carnt were found in or near the pond. The Judge, Lord Campbell, suggested that the young man had attempted violence; that the young woman had resisted, and called forth the base passions of her companion, and in his fury he had killed her. He was found guilty and condemned to death. Before his execution he confessed the crime.

At the same Assizes, Maria Clarke was convicted of the murder of her infant by *Burying it Alive*. She was engaged to be married; and, having an illegitimate child, whose existence she wished to conceal from her

intended husband, she resolved to take that way of getting rid of it. Next morning she confessed the deed to a relative who asked what had become of the child. A constable was sent for, and on his arrival the prisoner rushed out to a pond; but being arrested in her course she quietly returned, and informed the assembled folk that she had buried her boy in a certain field at Wingfield. There, at midnight, by the aid of a lantern, and in her presence, the constable discovered the body of the child lying just under the turf; which seemed to have been carefully removed and neatly replaced, so as to present but little difference to the eye. The prisoner stated that she had found the scupper [shovel] by accident, and that all of a sudden the thought came in her head to bury her child alive; that she dug a grave for him, and having laid him sleeping in it, she kissed him, and then replaced the turf. This done, she sat down by the side of the grave for half an hour; and all of a sudden she felt as if some one had lifted her up into the air and she could fly; so she got up and went home, more light-hearted than she ever was. Some attempt by the prisoner's counsel to suggest insanity was rejected by the Judge, Lord Campbell, who said the whole facts pointed to a specific motive for a deliberate and premeditated crime. After the trial, however, a statement of circumstances indicating the woman's insanity was forwarded to the Home Secretary, and her execution, consequently, has been resisted.

At the Nenagh assizes, a man named Kenna was convicted for being engaged in the perpetration of one of the worst cases of *Agrarian Murder*, which disgraced the notorious county of Tipperary last year. The victim was a man named Martin, who, with his brother, had got into possession of some land, the property of Mrs. Lidwell, from which tenants of the name of Joyce had been evicted. Two parties of men entered the houses of the two brothers, at the dawn of day, in October last, and while one of the brothers escaped with some broken bones, the other was dragged out of bed and murdered in a most brutal manner on the floor. The prisoner, who was not disguised in any way, stood sentinel at the door while the murder was going on: but the jury in finding him guilty, added a recommendation to mercy on the ground that when he went to the house the intention was only to beat the man, without murdering him.

James Newsam, a young man of two-and-twenty, assistant to Mr. Wright, a druggist at Sheffield, committed *Suicide* by swallowing prussic acid. He obtained a bottle of the poison from the shop, had poured a quantity into a glass, and had drunk it while in bed: the draught he took was so large that he could have had barely time to lie down before he was dead. He left two letters, one for his employer and the other for an aunt, in which he expressed his intention to destroy himself, declaring that he was constantly haunted by a "phantom": he feared he should never be a credit to himself or his relatives: it appears he had frequently made mistakes in business, from what was considered absence of mind. He begged that Mr. and Mrs. Wright would forgive any trouble he had caused them. The unhappy young man, who was the son of a clergyman, appears to have had some disagreement with his family. The Coroner's Jury gave a verdict of "Temporary insanity."

On the 1st of August last, the merchant-schooner *Secret*, Captain Jamison, was at anchor in Rucheanina Bay, New Georgian group, when four of the crew *Mutinied*, and, joining the natives who were on board, took possession of the schooner, which they kept for upwards of an hour. The captain and mate were in the cabin; and by keeping up a regular fire through the skylights, they killed the native chief, and succeeded in clearing the deck of the mutineers and their allies, who jumped overboard and swam ashore. The captain and mate now went on deck; and found that two of the crew were killed, and one severely wounded, as was also Captain Jamison's faithful dog. Captain Jamison then slipped his cable and stood out to sea, followed by the canoes of the natives; who on the following day (being still in sight of land) attempted to board, but were prevented by the steady fire from the schooner. The loss of the natives is not known, but is supposed to have been severe.

Several of the *Gang of Robbers* who were implicated in the recent murder of the Rev. Mr. Hollest and the burglary at Uckfield-house, have been committed for trial by the magistrates at Horsham for another burglary. The prisoner, one John Isaacs, the captain of the gang; Samuel Harwood, the brother of Levi Harwood who has been executed; and James Hamilton, the approver in the case of the Uckfield burglary. On their examination, Mrs. Stoner, whose house at Kidford, in Sussex, was broken open on the night of the 8th of June last, gave her evidence as to the manner of the burglary, from which it appeared that her bedroom door was burst open about two o'clock in the morning, and five men entered, two of whom were armed with pistols, and another with a chisel. She jumped out of bed, and ran into another room, when they seized upon her, and made her give them a pocket containing her money, and they then left the house. A voluntary confession, made by James Hamilton, was read, in which he stated that the burglary was committed by Isaacs, the two Harwoods, James Jones, John Jones (alias Smith), and Hamilton himself. Besides the charge on which the prisoners are committed, the police have other charges to bring against them.

On the 9th, William Gray Smythe, a surgeon of seeming respectability, was tried at the Central Criminal Court, on the charge of *Felonious Assaults* on three young girls whom he had enticed into the house for the purpose of debauching them. The evidence disclosed a course of conduct of the most infamous description. He was convicted in one of the cases, and sentenced to *Transportation for Life*.

Smythe was then tried with Frances Taylor, *alias* Foreman, who had been his servant, for a misdemeanour in conspiring to entrap another young girl named Catherine Stacey. Both were found guilty. Smythe palliated the guilt of Taylor by stating that she acted under his orders. Taylor was sentenced to two years' imprisonment, with hard labour.

An inquest was held on the 8th, on the body of Mr. Charles Mayo, a young man of nineteen, who *Drowned himself* on the 20th of last month, by leaping from London Bridge. He had been paying his addresses to a young lady at Rotherhithe; a disagreement occurred, and the lady desired in a note that their correspondence should cease. Mr. Mayo left a note for her, declaring that "she was all the world to him—it was too heavy for his brain to bear, and she would only now see the wreck." Verdict, "Temporary insanity."

In the same court, John Adams, a *regular Trainer of Boy Thieves*, was convicted of complicity in robbing a lady of fifty-six sovereigns. Two boys were engaged with Adams, and one of these (not in custody) picked the lady's pocket; the other boy was admitted evidence against his trainer. He said that Adams received the purse, and gave the boys only 30s. each of the plunder. Sentence, transportation for fifteen years.

Another most revolting act of *Poisoning with Arsenic* has been brought to light in the neighbourhood of Eastwood, Nottingham. The victim was a horse-dealer, named Barber, a man who had amassed considerable money by his speculations. He built a row of small houses near Langley Mill, in one part of which he resided with his wife, a woman of colossal stature, being six feet three inches high. They lived on bad terms, and it appears she became notorious for her intrigues. About eighteen months ago she collected all the money she could, about 500*l.*, and eloped with a man to Paris. She remained there until her cash was gone, when she wrote to her husband in a penitential strain; and he, forgetting her past conduct, went over to Paris, where he found her in a complete state of destitution. They returned, and passed their life in the same state of unhappiness as before, until about seven months ago, when he was attacked with illness. A man named Ingram was introduced into the house for the purpose of "nursing" him, and he died on the 30th ult., under circumstances that excited considerable suspicion. The wife and Ingram were at once apprehended. The fact that the wife of the deceased had caused arsenic to be procured was fully proved by several witnesses; the evidence also went to show that both the wife and her paramour Ingram were implicated in the transaction;

and the jury returned a verdict of "Willful Murder" against both.

At the Court of Inland Revenue, on the 16th, seven publicans, residing in different parts of the town, were each fined 200*l.* for *Adulterating their Beer* with a deleterious composition prepared for the purpose.

A *Swindler*, calling himself "Captain," or "Sir Richard Douglas, of Orpington House, Kent; Ascot Villa, Ascot," and 6, Belgrave Terrace;" was tried at the Central Criminal Court on the 18th, together with his two sons as his accomplices. It appeared that he had proceeded very methodically, and that he kept a regular diary of his transactions; a most extraordinary document. It was prefaced by a list of people to be victimised. The first day of the New Year for 1851 opened with a prayer, asking Providence to bless the exertions of the writer and his sons, and make them more prosperously productive than they were last year. It proceeds:—

"Took possession of Ascot Villa. Got phaeton, dog-cart, horses. Looked about Guildford, Staines. Ordered goods, coats, and beer, shawls. Got a great coat from Skinner.

"Jan. 3.—Nothing came in. Charles hired dog-cart and harness of Lilyey. Went in phaeton to Guildford. Ordered carpeting, shawls, coats, &c.

"4.—Nothing from Guildford but an impudent letter. Sent Charles to station for carpeting. Williamson there, and stopped it. Fear there will be a row. Got shawls.

"5.—Phaeton and horse seized. Fear exposure at Ascot, and all up with chance there. Fear we must cut.

"6.—Coats and beer came in. Made as merry as we could. Went to shop in Curzon Street. Ordered brushes, &c.

"7.—All day ill. Row about stable. Fervid possession taken of it. Row all day with one person or another. Fearful how things will end. Three boys at home idle. All ordering things.

"14.—Not a shilling coming in. Eleven months to feed. Would not order goods except to keep my children. They have found out my address at Guildford. Dreadful rows. Got carpeting. Fearful row with man who brought an iron safe. Row all night from ringing door-bell by boot and shoe man.

"16.—Row all day with people. Mob outside of house crying 'Swindler!'

"17.—Very nervous. More rows.

"18.—Went to boys' to dinner—champagne—very merry. Providence not quite deserted us."

A begging-letter written by him put an end to his career. It was put into the hands of a police-constable, who assumed the disguise of a charitable visitor, found the "destitute" man lying on straw, and conveyed him to prison as an impostor. He was sentenced to twelve months', and his sons to three months' imprisonment.

Mr. Charles Mathews, of the Lyceum Theatre, has *petitioned the Bankruptcy Court* under Lord Brougham's Debtor and Creditor act. His present debts are stated to be about 9000*l.*, and his proposal to pay his creditors in full is founded upon the hope he entertains of realising a large sum from a forthcoming entertainment during the season of the Great Exhibition. Mr. Mathews had numerous processes in the county courts out against him at the suit of *employes* at the Lyceum Theatre, and hence the necessity of his petitioning the court. On the 12th inst., Mr. Commissioner Fane did not appoint an official assignee to realise the estate, but sanctioned the appointment of a creditor.

At the Middlesex Sessions, on the 22*d.*, a *Child of seven years of age*, named Keefe, was indicted for theft, but the grand jury threw out the indictment. He was brought into court before being discharged. An officer mentioned that the child when taken into custody, had said that his father had bought him new boots and trousers with the money he had stolen. The Judge observed that it was clear from this fact that the father had drawn the child into the commission of the theft. There was no defect (he added) in the criminal law so severely felt as the want by courts of justice of the power to compel the parents of such children as this to maintain them whilst in prison; for, if this were so, the great inducement such persons now had to let their children get into the habits that ended in conviction and imprisonment would be done away with. The child's sister, a decently clad girl, said her father was a journeyman cooper, but she did not know what his earnings were. She herself had not resided with him for five years, and she would willingly take her brother. The boy was then discharged, and he left the court with his sister.

At the same Sessions, on the 23d, John Thomas Cox, a shopkeeper in Holywell Street, was indicted for publishing and selling *Obscene Books and Prints*. The offence was proved, and the prisoner convicted. He had been indicted for a similar offence in 1847, but had escaped punishment by writing to the prosecutors (the Society for the Suppression of Vice) a letter so full of contrition and promises of amendment, that the prosecution was not proceeded with. This letter was now put in, and the Judge, holding it to be an aggravation of the offence, sentenced Cox to be imprisoned in the House of Correction for two years, and afterwards to find bail for his good behaviour.

On the night of the 23rd, Mr. Armstrong, of Sorbietrees, in Cumberland, through a lamentable mistake, *was shot* by the Rev. Mr. Smith, the incumbent of Walton. In the middle of the night the rev. gentleman, alarmed by a noise at his window, fired a revolving pistol at random, with the view of frightening away the persons who, he apprehended, were attempting to break into his house. In the morning Mr. Armstrong was found lying near the door, shot through the heart. It does not appear how Mr. Armstrong came to Mr. Smith's door: he had dined at Bampton, it being market-day, and, when last seen, was riding homeward, slightly intoxicated. An inquest on the body has given a verdict of "manslaughter" against Mr. Smith, who is said to be a state bordering on insanity.

NARRATIVE OF ACCIDENT AND DISASTER.

A case of *Death from Chloroform* has occurred at the Stepney Union. John Holden, an inmate, was about to undergo an operation, and desired the relief of chloroform. Mr. Swain, a surgeon, administered the chloroform under the direction of Mr. Reynolds, and in the presence of two other medical gentlemen connected with the establishment. Mr. Swain having examined the deceased, and finding nothing to prohibit the use of chloroform, administered half a drachm, which was less than the average dose, without producing any of the premonitory symptoms. He again administered a similar dose, when the patient suddenly died without exhibiting any one of the symptoms usually found to precede the full and desired effects attendant on the administration of chloroform. The countenance was suddenly suffused, the heart ceased its action, the pulse was still, and the vital spark was instantly quenched. At the inquest on his body, the coroner spoke of the value of the discovery of chloroform as an alleviant of human suffering in severe surgical operations, and cited several opinions of judges to show that even non-medical men operating with good intentions were not liable to the charge of manslaughter when the result proved fatal. The jury returned a verdict to the effect that the deceased died through the administration of chloroform, though all the requisite precautions had been used.

An *Unfortunate Accident* happened in Her Majesty's Theatre, during the performance of "Masaniello," on Saturday evening, the 12th. A young man, named Deuwell, was firing off some guns behind the scenes, when one of them rebounded and discharged its contents in his left leg, which was dreadfully shattered. He was conveyed to Charing Cross Hospital, and amputation was performed. When the accident happened, the Queen, with several of the royal family, and a crowded audience, were witnessing the performance.

A *Destructive Fire* took place, on the evening of the 7th, at Stanwood Farm, in the New Forest. Mr. Chanwood, the farmer, noticed a light in the farm, and, opening the door, found the interior in a blaze. There was a fresh wind, which carried the flames to the stables and ricks. The whole of the stables, with eight horses and three fat oxen, were consumed; the barn, with sixty quarters of corn, five ricks of corn, ten pigs, nearly 200 head of poultry, a vast quantity of farming implements, &c. The granary, though in the midst of the flames, escaped, as did four ricks and the farm-house; but the furniture was much injured by removal. The labourers looked on with apathy; some, indeed, stole a barrel of beer, and cut slices from the burning bullocks.

SOCIAL, SANITARY, AND MUNICIPAL PROGRESS.

THE annual meeting of the *Female Aid Society* was held on the 8th, at the Hanover Square Rooms, the Marquis of Cholmondeley in the chair. This society supports a Home for friendless young women of good character, a Home and Registry for female servants, and a Home for Penitents. The report stated that a comparison of the present capabilities of the society in two departments of its labour with those which existed in the year 1844 showed that great progress had been made. The number of inmates who were received into the Friendless Home in 1844 was sixteen, and the present asylum was capable of accommodating thirty-five. In the same year the Penitents' Home could, with difficulty, accommodate forty inmates, and the present limit was extended to sixty. During the past year sixty-six females had been placed in service from the Friendless Home, and there were now thirty inmates in that asylum. Since the commencement of the society, 988 young persons, friendless and unprotected, had been trained and placed in service from this branch of the society's labours. The success which had attended the Servants' Home during the year was very encouraging. The number of servants admitted as lodgers during the year had been 165. Since the commencement of the society the number was 1520. The persons supplied with situations during the year numbered 311, and since the commencement of the society 3204. As regarded the Penitents' Home the committee observed, that 107 had been admitted into that asylum during the year, making, with the sixty who were previously there, a total of 167 who had received the benefits of the society. Of this number fifty were now resident in the building, twenty had been restored to their friends, and nineteen had been sent to service. Since the commencement of the society above 2160 outcast females had been admitted into the Home, of whom upwards of 900 had passed through their probation satisfactorily, and had been either reconciled to their friends or placed in situations. Upon the financial condition of the society the committee reported that at the close of the year 1849 the society was in debt to the amount of 600*l.*, and this sum had now been paid off without affecting the efficiency and usefulness of the Homes. Each source of the society's income showed an increase; but nevertheless a sum of about 3000*l.* would be required previous to April, 1852, to maintain the institution in its present state of prosperity. Of this sum about 1400*l.* must be derived from donations and new subscriptions. The receipts during the past year amounted to 3533*l.* 7*s.* 8*d.*, and the expenditure to 3265*l.* 2*s.* 7*d.*

The fourth anniversary of the *Hoxton Ragged Schools* was celebrated on the 16th by a meeting in the school-room. Mr. S. A. Hankey, in the absence of Lord Ashley, was in the chair. The report of the committee gave a very satisfactory account of the progress of the schools; and also related some interesting particulars respecting the success which had attended the boys who had emigrated at the expense of the establishments. One boy had written from America to Lord Ashley and Lady C. Sturt, stating that whilst in England he was seven times convicted as a thief; but in his present position he was respected, and was happier than ever he was in his life. In England, he was "six weeks in prison and one out;" now he had an abundance of all he wished for, and had been enabled to place thirty dollars out at interest, after spending twenty-five dollars in clothing. The report went on to state that daily instruction was imparted to 120 infants; whilst twenty boys and thirty girls were taught writing and arithmetic four nights in the week; and about 260 received instruction upon the Sabbath-day. A London City missionary had been appointed in connexion with the schools, Mr. H. C. Sturt and his lady contributing 25*l.* a-year towards his support. A penny bank had been opened to receive from the children their little sums, to which interest would be added. The annual expenditure of the institution did not exceed 104*l.*, and this sum was found sufficient to provide for day and evening instruction, emigration, school requisites, &c. There was, however, a debt upon the school amounting to 218*l.* 12*s.*,

the expense of the building, and the committee made an earnest appeal to the public for their assistance towards the liquidation of this claim.

The third annual meeting of the supporters of the *Lambeth Ragged Schools* was held on the 23rd—the birthday of Mr. H. Beaufoy, the benevolent donor of the fund for endowing the new schools in Doughty-street, lately erected at a cost of 10,000*l*. The Lord Mayor was in the chair, and the meeting was crowded. The report gave an interesting account of the progress of the institution. The number in attendance in the school on Sundays, from 6 to 8 o'clock, and who are receiving religious instruction, is 600. The instruction to these is given by forty voluntary teachers. A weekday evening-class is held five evenings in the week, and is attended by 150 girls and 100 boys. A working class for girls, meeting two nights weekly, is attended by an average of fifty scholars, and is superintended by an efficient mistress, under the direction of an active ladies' committee. The infant school has an average attendance of 300. Forty-seven boys and forty-nine girls have received articles of clothing as rewards since last annual meeting; twenty girls have been put to service, and are doing well; and three boys and two girls have been assisted to emigrate to Australia, and, according to accounts, are also doing well. The constitution and object of the society is stated as being "to afford instruction to the very poorest children, without restriction on account of the religious tenets their parents may hold. The business of the schools is governed by a president, treasurer, honorary secretary, and a committee of not more than twenty subscribers of not less than twenty shillings annually. All of them are chosen at an annual meeting of subscribers, without restriction to any particular denomination of Christians. The teaching is based on the authorised version of the Holy Scriptures, and no creed or catechism is taught."

The annual general meeting of the supporters of the *City of London Ragged Schools* was held on the same evening at the Hall of Commerce, Samuel Gurney, Jun., Esq., in the chair. The report gave a most satisfactory account of the progress of the establishment, and mentioned one peculiar feature—a savings bank for the children frequenting the schools, in which there were already 200 depositors. The Rev. John Branch, in moving the adoption of the report, observed—That the report of the Ragged School Union for the present year would be one of the most remarkable documents London had ever listened to, as evidencing the vast amount of benefit these schools had effected. He contended that schools of this character would do more than the detectives had done in breaking up the Frimley gang, for they would take away the disposition to steal.

The *Royal Agricultural Society of Dublin* opened its annual exhibition of black cattle, sheep, swine, &c., on the 21st, and presented the largest and finest display of stock in the several departments remembered on any similar occasion in Dublin since its foundation. Among the successful exhibitors are his Excellency the Earl of Clarendon, Lord Plunkett, the Earl of Charlemont, Lord Talbot de Malahide, Viscount Monck, the Earl of Mayo, Robert Holmes, Esq., Colonel Latouche, Colonel Vandaeur, Sir Alan Bellingham, Viscount Hill, &c. In the evening there was a meeting, at which the Lord Lieutenant presided, for the distribution of prizes. His Excellency, in acknowledging a vote of thanks, addressed the meeting in an interesting speech, in which he took a cheering view of the progress of Ireland. He paid a tribute of praise to the present race of Irish landlords. "I think," he said, "that amongst other things, exhibitions such as these prove the spirit which now animates the great majority of the landlords of Ireland, who are so habitually and unjustly maligned. I have no doubt that in former times many of them have deserved censure, and that in the present time, here and elsewhere, in so large a class, there may be many ignorant of their duties, and unmindful of their interests. But I say it is unfair to class with these the great majority of Irish landlords, who are now manfully struggling against difficulties, and bestirring themselves with a spirit, an energy, and a judgment, that reflect the highest credit, which I devoutly hope will be attended with the success they deserve." After noticing

the rapid progress of the linen manufacture in Ulster, where linen is sold to the value of two millions annually, his Excellency asked if those facts were not an answer to those who were constantly talking of the ruined manufacturers of Ireland, and referring to the jealous rivalry of England as the cause. "I know it will be said, 'this is only the province of Ulster;' but is not Ulster part of Ireland? Are the laws in Ulster different from those in any other part of the country? But I say, gentlemen, go beyond Ulster. Look to Limerick, and you will find the lace of that city manufactured in a style superior to the production of the looms of other countries. I have been informed that if a sufficient supply of this article could be procured for exportation to meet the demand for it, it would speedily destroy all competition. We have all seen the beautiful productions which the city of Dublin has sent forward as her contributions to the world's Exhibition, and which amply testify her determination not to be behind-hand in the great contest of universal skill and ingenuity." His Excellency said, in conclusion, "Gentlemen, I will not detain you longer than by apologising for the length at which I have detained you, and for having travelled away from the subject which assembled us, in my desire to convey my own impression, that Ireland is about to become what she ought to be—that our agricultural and manufacturing prosperity is not an idle dream—that industry and energy have already accomplished sufficient to encourage us to persevere to turn to the best account that which nature has bestowed upon us."

A memorial has lately been addressed to Lord John Russell by Messrs. Longman and Co., and Mr. J. Murray, of Albermarle-street, on the subject of *Books printed and published in Ireland by the Irish Education Commissioners*, and sold in England at prices below those for which books can be sold by booksellers in this country. They complain that this system is an unjust and impolitic interference with private enterprise, and that it not only encroaches upon, but completely supercedes, the sound principles of private competition. That the Government has set up as a producer, and while it leaves an important branch of trade heavily burdened with taxes, it scruples not to enter into competition with the parties so burthened, employing the produce of the taxes, to which they largely contribute, as capital to undersell and supplant them in their business. That this is not the way to improve educational or other works, but to force independent parties from the field to make room for those who, as they are maintained at the public expense, and have nothing of their own to lose, must necessarily care comparatively little about either the cost or character of their productions. They contend that Government could not possibly produce books or anything else so cheaply, or of so good a quality, as private individuals; but the factitious sale and artificial encouragement given to these books had been the only means by which the expenses had been defrayed. They then refer to a piracy that had been committed by the compiler of one of these books, and they affirm that there is no want of educational books produced under a system of free competition, and consequently of the cheapest and best kind; and they conclude by urging his lordship to put a stop to the importation of books manufactured in Ireland at the public expense. Lord John Russell has acknowledged by his secretary the receipt of this memorial, but no steps with reference to it have yet been taken.

From a Parliamentary Return just issued, it appears that the total number of *Children in all the Workhouses in England and Wales* on the 25th of March, 1850, was 50,189—27,351 boys, and 22,838 girls; being a decrease of 11 per cent. on the number in 1849. Of the boys 3773 were capable of entering upon service; and of the girls, 2973. The greatest proportion of these children were seven years of age and upwards—17,808 boys, and 14,321 girls. The illegitimate children amounted to 12,694; of 8874 of whom the mothers were in the workhouse. The deserted children, whether deserted by father, mother, or both, amounted to 8354; and those whose fathers were transported, or suffering imprisonment for crime, to 1328. The counties furnishing the largest number of children thus maintained in the workhouse were—Middlesex, 3085 boys, 2458 girls

Lancaster, 2673 boys, 1935 girls; Kent, 1424 boys, 1323 girls; Surrey, 1277 boys, 1082 girls; Devon, 1121 boys, 214 girls; and Somerset, 1036 boys, 817 girls.

A parliamentary return has been obtained, on the motion of Mr. Miles, respecting the *Importation and average prices of Corn* in 1850. It shows that the total imports of all sorts of corn, grain, meal, and flour, in 1850, amounted to 9,078,493 quarters, of which 4,856,039 were wheat and wheat flour, 1,043,082 were barley and barley meal, 1,169,811 oats and oatmeal, and 1,289,589 Indian corn and meal. The largest quantities of wheat imported in any single month were in September, being 596,896 quarters, and the least in February, when they were 187,318 quarters. The countries furnishing the largest imports of wheat were France (1,150,897 quarters), Russian ports within the Black Sea (572,446 quarters), and the United States of America (542,930 quarters). The highest monthly average price of wheat in England and Wales, in 1850, was 43s. 8d. (in August), and the lowest, 37s. 10d. (in April). The general average for the year was 40s. 3d. The average prices per bushel at which rent-charge in lieu of tithes is taken for the year are, wheat, 6s. 5½d.; barley, 4s.; oats, 2s. 8d.

At the monthly meeting of the council of *The Queen's College, Birmingham*, it was announced that the Rev. Samuel Wilson Warford had paid over to Mr. Chancellor Law, the Rev. Vaughan Thomas, and William Sands Cox, F.R.S., in trust, the munificent sum of 1400*l.*, in addition to his former noble gift of 3000*l.*, towards the endowment of the professorship of Pastoral Theology, such appointment to be vested in the Senatus of the Arts department. A donation of 25*l.* was also recorded from the Right Hon. Lord Leigh, towards the completion of the new buildings. At the same board, Dr. James Johnstone, the Senior Physician of the General Hospital, was appointed Joint Professor of Medicine, and Dr. Samuel Wright, Physician, of the Queen's Hospital, Joint Professor of Materia Medica and Therapeutics, in the medical department of the college.

PERSONAL NARRATIVE.

LORD Langdale took his leave of the bar practising in the Rolls Court on the 25th ult. Mr. Turner, in a few appropriate words of farewell eulogy, expressed the sincere regret of the bar at the retirement of a judge equally distinguished by legal erudition and moral dignity. His lordship died on the 15th.

Sir John Romilly was sworn in before the Lord Chancellor, as Master of the Rolls, on the 28th.

Sir Alexander Cockburn has been promoted to the office of Attorney-General, in place of Sir John Romilly; and is succeeded as Solicitor-General by Mr. Page Wood.

The new Vice-Chancellorship has been given to Mr. Turner, M.P. for Coventry.

Dr. Hibbert Binney, Bishop-elect, or Bishop-nominate of Nova Scotia, was consecrated by the Archbishop of Canterbury, at Lambeth Palace on the 25th ult.

Mr. John Kerle Haberfield, the Mayor of Bristol, has obtained from Her Majesty the honour of Knighthood.

Colonel George Griffiths Lewis, C.B., Royal Engineers, has been appointed Lieutenant-Governor of the Royal Military Academy at Woolwich, in place of the late Major-General Parker.

The new Member for Coventry, Mr. Geach, was formerly a clerk in the Bank of England at 80*l.* a year; then he was director of a banking establishment at Birmingham; and being now an iron-merchant, his income has lately been returned at 30,000*l.* a year.

Miss Talbot is about to be married to Lord Edward Fitzalan Howard, M.P. for Horsham, second son of the Duke of Norfolk, Hereditary Earl Marshal, and Premier Peer of England. His Lordship holds the office of Vice-Chamberlain to the Queen, and is in his thirty-fourth year. He is a Roman Catholic.

The Earl of Howth has been appointed Lord-Lieutenant of the county and city of Dublin, and the Earl of Wicklow, Custos Rotulorum of the county of Wicklow, in the room of the Earl of Meath.

Lord Truro has received an address from the Incorporated Law Society of Solicitors and Attorneys, congratulating him on his elevation to the Woolsack; and requesting him to sit for his portrait, to be placed in their hall. Lord Truro replied with cordial affability, recurring to the period when he himself was a solicitor; and of course acceded to the flattering request in reference to his portrait.

The Marquis of Londonderry has published an account of an interview he lately had with the Emir, Abd-el-Kader, in the chateau of Amboise, on the Loire, where the Arab-chief is imprisoned, and of the Marquis's attempt to intercede in his behalf with the President of the Republic. Lord Londonderry, on being admitted into the chateau, was ushered into the presence of the captive. "We followed our guide to the most elevated part of the chateau, when, passing through an outward ante-hall or guard chamber, we came to a door where all shoes, &c., were left. Upon this door being thrown open, the interesting old warrior stood before us—his burnous as white as the driven snow, his beard as black as jet, his projecting large eyebrows of the same hue, with teeth like ivory, and most expressive dark eyes, showing peculiarly the white liquid tinge surrounding the pupils. His stature is tall and commanding, his gestures, softness, and amiability of expression almost inexplicable. Upon my approaching him, the Emir held out a very large, bony, and deep-brown hand to me, which, when I grasped, he turned to lead me to the sofa and the seats prepared at the head of the room." The conversation was carried on by means of an interpreter. The Emir expressed his desire to see and converse with the President of the Republic, a boon which Lord Londonderry said he would do his best to obtain, though he acknowledged that he had no hopes of success. "I think," says Lord Londonderry, "this indescribably interesting and noble old chief was much pleased and greatly affected by our visit. During the whole period of our stay he had my hand grasped between his two large skinny palms, and on my departure he gave me two such affectionate hugs that my neck and shoulders ached for some time after. Immediately previous to our departure, two pretty children, like Moorish mummies in habiliment, were ushered in; and we saw some attendants hovering about, but we fell in with no others of the family, of the wives, of the brothers, or of the children stated to belong to Abd-el-Kader's tribe, and incorporated with him in his captivity, and in the habitation of this dreary, dismal old chateau. I may add that the loss of their sunny clime, and their azure sky, appeared to me to be not the least of the miseries which the captives undergo in their present cruel bondage." Lord Londonderry then proceeds to describe how he wrote to the President to prefer Abd-el-Kader's request. Prince Louis Napoleon's reply will be sufficient to explain its tenor:—

"Elysée National, March 29, 1851.

"My dear Marquis,—I have not sooner replied to your letter written to me from Tours, because I did not know where to address my reply, and I hoped soon to see you in Paris. What you tell me of the Emir Abd-el-Kader has greatly interested me, and I find markedly in your solicitude for him the same generous heart that interceded some years since in favour of the prisoner of Ham. I confess to you, that from the first day of my election, the captivity of Abd-el-Kader has not ceased to occupy me, and to weigh like a burden upon my heart. I have also often been occupied in seeking for the means that would permit me to place him at liberty without risking a compromise of the repose of Algeria, and the security of our soldiers and colonists. To-day, even, the new ambassador, who is about to repair to Constantinople, is charged by me to study this question; and believe me, my dear marquis, no person will be more happy than I, when it will be permitted me to render liberty to Abd-el-Kader. I shall be very glad to see the Emir, but I can only see him to announce good news; I am, therefore, until that period arrives, deprived of the possibility of granting his request."

Obituary of Notable Persons.

LORD DACRE died at his seat in Hertfordshire, on the 21st ult., in his seventy-seventh year.
GENERAL THE HON. SIR A. DUFF, G.C.H., died on the 21st ult., at Fulham, aged seventy-three years. He was brother and heir-presumptive to the present Earl of Fife.

ADMIRAL SIR EDWARD HAMILTON, BART., one of the most distinguished officers in the navy, died on the 20th ult. His most memorable action was in 1799, when as captain of the *Surprise*, with the boats of that ship, he boarded and brought out from under the batteries of Porto Cavallo the (late British) frigate *Hermione*, of 44 guns and 390 men, in which service he was severely wounded, and for which he was awarded a gold medal.

MAJOR-GENERAL PARKER, C.B., Royal Artillery, for many years Lieut.-Governor of the Royal Military Academy at Woolwich, died on the 25th ult., after a short illness.

SIR GILBERT HEATHCOTE, BART., of Normanton park, Rutland, and of Durdans, county of Surrey, died on the 26th ult., aged seventy-seven.

LEUTENANT-COLONEL CHARLES CORNWALLIS MICHELL, K.H., K.B.A., K.T.S., late Surveyor-General at the Cape of Good Hope, died on the 28th ult., at Eltham, Kent, aged fifty-eight, after three years of acute suffering from disease of the heart, contracted in his onerous official duties during twenty years in that colony.

REAR-ADMIRAL JOHN TOUT NICOLAS, C.B., died on the 1st inst., at Plymouth, in his sixty-third year.

GENERAL SIR J. MCLEOD, C.B., K.C.II., Colonel of the 77th Regiment, died on the 3rd inst., after a long and painful illness.

LORD MONCRIEFF, one of the Scottish Lords of Session, died in Edinburgh, aged seventy-five. He was almost the last of the distinguished contemporaries of Jeffrey, Cranston, and Clerk, in the Parliament house.

MR. JOHN DICKENS, of the *Daily News*, died on the 31st ult., at his residence in Keppel Street, Russell Square, in his 66th year.

THE MARCHIONESS OF LANSDOWNE died at Bowdoo park,

Wiltis, on the 3rd inst., in the sixty-sixth year of her age. Her ladyship was the fifth daughter of the second Earl of Hchester, and was married to the Marquis of Lansdowne, then Lord Henry Petty, in 1808.

THE HON. F. SAVILE died on the 3rd. inst., at Coblenz. He was fifth son of the Earl and Countess of Mexborough, and brother to Lord Pollington, late M.P. for Pontefract.

THE HON. CAPT. DUDLEY FELHAM, R.N., M.P., died on the 13th, at his residence in Motcomb Street, Belgrave Square, in his thirty-ninth year. He was youngest son of the late, and brother to the present, Earl of Yarborough.

VICE-ADMIRAL T. BROWNE died on the 8th inst., at the age of eighty-three. He entered the navy in 1782.

COLONEL W. M. SLOANE, late of the British Auxiliary Legion in Spain, and formerly in the 67th Regiment, in which he served in India, died on the 10th inst.

PRINCE WITTGENSTEIN, Minister of the Royal House of Prussia, died on the 11th inst., at Berlin, at the age of eighty-one. He had been in the service of the State fifty-six years, and had filled the post in which he died since 1819.

CAPT. JOHN DAVEY CUNNINGHAM, of the Bengal Engineers, the eldest son of the late Allan Cunningham, whose "History of the Sikhs," published in 1849, gave such offence to the home authorities as to cause his removal from political employment at Bhopaul, died in Bengal on the 25th February. He had been from that time up to the present without any really remunerative employment, but just before his death he had been posted to the charge of the Meerut division of public works.

HENRY, LORD LANGDALE, late Master of the Rolls, died on the 18th, in his 67th year.

COLONIES AND DEPENDENCIES.

THE most recent news from the Cape is not of the most encouraging kind. While the Hottentots appear to be taking a greater interest in the strife, and joining the Caffirs, the Boers and Burghers are growing more and more indifferent to it, and turning off in apathy from both; nor is it very encouraging to us here at home to see the significant statements thus early thrown out, to the effect that the losses of the colonists generally must already be reckoned by hundreds of thousands of pounds sterling. It is not that the Caffirs are not beaten whenever they come into direct collision with the troops; but that it is next to impossible to force them into anything like regular engagements. The war is of the guerilla sort; and accompanied, therefore, as such warfare always is, by the most frightful and unavoidable ravages of property. It is difficult to see the end of such strife, and certainly the proclamations of Sir Harry Smith himself do not seem to be at all sanguine of an early termination. It is lamentable to observe, turning to the colony of Van Diemen's Land, that the differences and quarrels on the subject of convict and anti-convict settlements (each faction now forming themselves into rival and contending "leagues") are manifestly and widely increasing.

The *Overland Mail* brings accounts from Bombay, to the 17th of March. Major-General Sir Dudley St. Leger Hill, K.C.B., commanding the Sirhind division of the Bengal army, died suddenly at Umballa on the 21st of February. The gallant officer was walking in his garden when he suddenly fell ill, staggered against a tree, and, in a very short time, was no more.

From Peshawur there are accounts of a daring outrage committed by some marauders of the hills on a Miss Curling and Captain Grantham, of H.M. 98th, who were out riding a few miles from the cantonment. A few ruffians having emerged from their hiding-place and laid hold of the young lady's horse, the captain dismounted to make them let go, when they set on him with their swords, and cut him down, and then threw him into a ditch for dead, making off with the two horses. The young lady returned on foot to the cantonments, and related what had happened, when a party was sent out in search of the wounded gentleman, whom they discovered almost lifeless where he had been thrown. He was by last advices out of danger, but one of his hands had been obliged to be amputated.

The fine old Bombay ship the *Buckinghamshire* has fallen a victim to incendiarism in the Hooghly: she was destroyed by fire on the night of the 3rd of March, a little below Diamond Harbour. She was bound for London with invalids of her Majesty's service, and a number of cabin passengers, besides a cargo valued at 80,000*l.*—both it and the vessel were fully insured. Two invalids, and two of the crew were drowned. She had thirty Bombay Lascars as part of her crew, who are believed to be her destroyers. Everything on board was totally destroyed, and the passengers left with nothing but the clothes on their backs.

At *Nepaul* a conspiracy has been discovered for the murder of Jung Bahadur, the prince whose residence in London excited so much attention last year. The murder was to have been committed on the 17th of February, as the minister was on his way to the Durbar. The conspirators were the Mahila Saihb, the Maharajah's brother, General Budea Nar Sing, his brother, General Jaie Bahadur, the cousin of his intended victim, together with Khurbeer Khutree, one of the chiefs who accompanied the minister to Europe. The plot was discovered through the treachery of one of the conspirators near midnight on the 16th, and the plotters, finding too much known for concealment, confessed the rest.

The *West India Mail* has brought advices from the different colonies to the end of last month. In *Jamaica* cases of cholera were still reported.—A public meeting of merchants and other inhabitants of British Guiana, was held at George Town on the 8th of March, for the purpose of considering the present state of the taxation and expenditure of the Colony; when resolutions were passed that a large reduction was urgently required, and that the meeting desired to impress upon the Combined Court, the necessity of effecting every practicable reduction of taxation, by exercising the utmost possible retrenchment in the public expenditure.—From the other colonies there is no news of importance.

The *Cape Town* journals bring accounts from the seat of war to the end of February. On the 23rd of that month, a very important service was accomplished by Colonel Somerset. Fort Armstrong, which we had

abandoned some weeks before, was then attacked, and after a fight from dawn till noon, was "carried, sacked, and burnt down." Ninety dead Caffres were left on the field—many more were doubtless removed by their defeated countrymen; and 230 prisoners were taken. Our loss was twelve killed—only four Europeans, and fifty wounded. Colonel Somerset, in his despatch, says—"The brave conduct of the Burghers is beyond all praise."—Sir Harry Smith had received further levies from Cape Town; but still remained at King William's Town. Pato continued friendly, keeping open the communication with East London on the coast. From the tenor of the accounts, it is evident that the Caffre combination is extensive and firm, and that Sir H. Smith has a formidable foe to contend with.

It appears from the Montreal Journals that, in *Lower Canada*, the annexation feeling has lately shown some symptoms of revival in Lower Canada. A public meeting has been held in the county of Huntington, at which annexation was decidedly maintained by a portion of the speakers, but was opposed by the Roman Catholic clergy.

The Legislature of *New Brunswick* opened on the 25th of March. The Governor in his address, referred to the dispute which existed between his predecessor and the Assembly, and announced that he was prepared to introduce a responsible government into the colony in a modified form; and also to surrender the disposal of her Majesty's crown revenues when the legislature shall have agreed to certain conditions required on the part of the crown.

PROGRESS OF EMIGRATION AND COLONISATION.

The following facts will show the progress of *Emigration from Ireland*. Since the commencement of the present season, 2311 emigrants have sailed from Limerick, and 1600 from Galway; both of these ports being besides filled with ships at this moment, preparing to carry off living freights to America. It was computed that on a single day, in this month, 1100 emigrants sailed from Cork. Vessels in the emigrant trade sail from that port almost every day, and several are now filling with passengers there. From Waterford, the emigrants generally proceed to Liverpool, to take shipping there for America; but a great many emigrant ships also sail direct from that port to the New World. The Mars, from Waterford to Liverpool, had 300 passengers bound for America on board, and all the steamers from the same port are generally crowded with persons for the same destination. From New Ross the emigration is proceeding at the same rate. One vessel sailed thence for Quebec with 430 passengers, a fortnight ago, and another large ship is preparing to follow. From Drogheda it is supposed that the number of emigrants this season (and we are yet only in the beginning of it) has amounted to some 5000; and from every port around the Irish coast, emigration is proceeding in the same proportion. The Limerick Chronicle says that several of the Irish constabulary are leaving the force, for the purpose of going to America.

The *Family Colonization Loan Society*, on the 8th, had a meeting of the emigrants who are about to sail in the Blundell, the society's first ship of the season, which leaves England early next month, for the purpose of introducing them to each other, and arranging all the preliminaries for their voyage. It appeared that 230

persons are going out by the next ship, 64 of whom have brothers and sisters in the colonies; and 18 aged parents, who have been sent for by their children, who in most cases had forwarded 5*l.* towards the expense of their voyage. The expense for each individual was 12*l.*, and this society lent 4*l.*, on the payment of which the party repaying it nominates a relative, to whom 4*l.* is again lent, with an additional pound; so that the debt from the family became increased as they became more known to the society. The payments from the working classes amounted to between 150*l.* and 200*l.*, and the society could send off five ships by September next, if they could advance a sufficient number of 4*l.* loans to each adult. The sum of 1242*l.* 9*s.* had been paid by the parties now about to sail. The number of children going out this voyage amounted to 60; and a school-room is to be fitted up for them on board, so that the time passed on the voyage may not be thrown away. A sort of friendly compact was then established amongst the intending emigrants (under the direction of Mrs. Chisholm, the originator of the society), and various arrangements were agreed upon with a view to their comfort on the voyage.

The Committee for carrying out *Mr. Sidney Herbert's Scheme for Promoting Female Emigration* have circulated a report of the proceedings in the first year of their labours, to the 31st December last. The amount of subscriptions to the fund was 22,500*l.* During the year 409 females were despatched to various colonies; among them were 32 dressmakers, 3 governesses, 79 needleworkers, 2 schoolmistresses, 169 servants, 11 shirt-makers, and 1 teacher of languages. It is explained that the class of "servants" includes many poor women who when out of service have attempted to obtain a living by means of needlework. The women were sent out in ten ships, eight of which were sent out to the Australian Colonies, one to Canada, and one to the Cape. Since the commencement of this year, thirty emigrants have departed for New Zealand. The women have been well received in the colonies: not one remained unhired four days after arriving at the Colonial Depôts. The Canada emigrants were all engaged before they arrived at their destination. The committee declare, that "if supported by the liberality of the public, they can, with the greatest benefit to the poor and suffering female population of London, expend in emigration every year, a sum of at least 6000*l.* or 7000*l.*; and if their operations were extended so as to embrace the female population of other large cities, they might expend double this amount advantageously and well." Of the original subscriptions, two-thirds yet remain in hand, which will pay for the emigration of 800 more young women.

The government has decided on *making Deptford and Plymouth the Emigration Depôts*. The South-western Railway Company offered to convey emigrants and all their luggage from London to Southampton, and place the whole on board ship in Southampton Docks, at 6*s.* per head, if government would make Southampton the depôt, and enable the emigrants to avoid the dangers and delay of that part of the Channel voyage between the Thames and the Isle of Wight. It is calculated that the value of a depôt to a town will average about 200,000*l.* per annum. The emigration department is becoming of great magnitude. The fees of the government emigration-agent at Plymouth will, it is expected, amount very shortly to 2000*l.* a-year.

NARRATIVE OF FOREIGN EVENTS.

THE most curious foreign event of the month has been the Duke of Saldanha's abortive attempt at a military revolution in Portugal. A country must be in an odd condition which requires a movement of this kind to unseat an obnoxious minister; for it is not pretended that the noble conspirator had any other object in view than to bring about a ministerial crisis. He appears to have been baffled chiefly by the spirit and energy of "El Rey," the queen's husband, a prince of the Coburg family, and evidently a very capable man.

Prince Metternich has returned to his native country, and the first three years' instalment of the great German revolution (which Goethe predicted would last some hundred years or so, when once begun) has

ended in Austria securing herself the first place, and leaving Prussia to the second, at — the Old Frankfort Diet! If the Prince can still enjoy a hearty laugh, the rafters of his castle of Johannisberg must have rung again as he quietly sat himself down once more after his three years' exile. He has come back to find his countrymen in a state of servitude and subjection which far exceeds any hope he could ever have had of reducing them to, in his own days of power.

M. Léon Faucher, having at last undertaken to form a ministry for Louis Napoleon, has got one together of which the peculiarity seems to be that not a single party of any kind in the country, whether of Thiers or Barrot, Orleanist or Legitimist, White or Red, can be expected to support. But as every other combination hitherto has been dispersed after a few days' trial, perhaps the oddity of this may help to keep it together for a month.

The only political occurrence of note, in *France*, has been the formation, after several failures, of a Ministry, nearly similar to that which was thrown out in January last. Its principal members are: M. Baroche, Foreign Affairs; Rouher, Justice; Fould, Finance; Léon Faucher, Interior; Buffet, Commerce; Chasseloup-Laubat, Marine; General Randon, War; Magne, Public Works. On the formation of this ministry being announced to the Assembly, M. St. Beuve moved a renewal of the vote of want of confidence passed in January against the late Baroche Ministry, but the motion was negatived by 377 to 275. The new ministry has decided on a revision of the constitution, and M. Léon Faucher is understood to contemplate sweeping changes, of a conservative tendency, in the administration of the departments.

The new opera of *Sappho*, by M. Gounod, a young composer of great promise, has been interdicted by M. Faucher, in consequence of its containing a song beginning with the words "Peuple déshérité." The manager remonstrated with the minister on the subject, quoting former precedents where much stronger sentiments had been employed: to which the minister rejoined, that what was permitted by the Monarchy would not be tolerated by the Republic.

Seditious agencies are busy among the working-classes in Paris, particularly in the quarter of St. Antoine. Wages are low and work scanty. The great furniture shops decline additions to their stock, unless brought at prices below remuneration. The departments seem agitated by alarming rumours and the appearance of men in considerable numbers demanding work. At St. Etienne between seven and eight hundred persons had applied to be employed at the *ateliers-nationaux*, which they heard had been re-established, as in 1848, by the municipality. The working classes of the same place were in a state of ferment at rumours of disturbances at Grenoble and Vienne.

The last accounts from *Germany* state, that, after an infinity of discussions and negotiations, Austria has at last accepted the proposition of Prussia, to restore the old Germanic Diet at Frankfort, as it existed before 1848; but with certain modifications to be agreed upon by the Dresden Conference, which still continues to hold sittings.

An insurrection has taken place in *Portugal*. The Duke of Saldanha, with the ostensible object of displacing the Count de Thomar, raised the insurgent flag at Cintra, on the 10th, and marched on Santarem, expecting a large portion of the army to join him. In this, it appears, he has been disappointed; and is stated, by the last accounts, to be in a precarious situation, at the head of a small body of troops, while the king's forces were preparing to attack him.

Accounts from *New York* are to the 9th inst. Public feeling is represented as becoming stronger and stronger against the Fugitive Slave Act. The Ohio legislature had passed resolutions by a large majority in favour of a repeal of the obnoxious law, or, at least, a great modification of it. The denial of juries to slaves put upon their trial was condemned in a very emphatic manner. Great excitement has been produced at Boston by the arrest of a fugitive slave named Simms. The abolitionists of Boston held a meeting, at which three clergymen urged the blacks to shed blood, and tear up the railways and prevent the return of the captive.

The American papers mention the repeated occur-

rence of *Lynch Law* in the California community. A drunken Englishman, who resided at Georgetown, lately murdered his wife by shooting her with a rifle, because she refused to give him money to gamble with. It being Sunday, and the streets full of people, the house instantly filled. The wife was a decent woman, who had supported her family by her industry, and her fate roused the indignation of the multitude. The man was seized, and hurried to an eminence overlooking the town. The people were persuaded to wait till an investigation should take place; the coroner was sent for, and, to save time, a jury was selected to be ready for his arrival. But the patience of the mob soon gave way; they dispersed the jury, seized the man, and carried him off to hang him from the branch of a tree. At the head of the procession the murderer marched to his gallows, and the body of his wife was borne close behind him. A small box, marked "For the Orphans," was nailed to the tree, and many an ounce was poured into it from the purses of those who followed the father to his death. The body of the murdered woman was lowered into a wide pit; and, even while the wretched man gazed upon it, the cord suddenly tightened around his neck, and he swayed in the air. The mob sat on the hillside, and sternly watched him. At the end of half an hour he was cut down, and laid in the grave by the side of his wife. In the evening the coroner arrived, and, upon hearing the story, summoned his jury for morning. They met at sunrise upon the hill, and stood around the unfilled grave, while the end of a cut cord dangled above their heads. After a few words had been exchanged, and, after laying a slip of paper upon each of the bodies, they proceeded to fill up the grave. Upon one of the slips was written, "Murdered by — Divine, her husband," and upon the other, "Died according to the will of God and justice of men."

Another case, not less remarkable, has taken place at Sacramento. Two men quarrelled in a gaming-house; a third, attempting to interfere, was shot through the head by one of the disputants. The murderer (a young man named Roe), was instantly seized, and carried to a police-station. A meeting immediately assembled in front of the station; a committee was appointed to investigate the circumstances, and they made a formal report that the prisoner was guilty. The crowd, with loud shouts, battered down the door of the station-house, dragged out the unhappy wretch, and carried him in procession to an open place in the city, where he was deliberately hanged from the branch of a tree; the attendance of a clergyman having been obtained. "The crowd," says the newspaper account, "to witness the solemn scene did not number less than five thousand. Everything was conducted in an orderly but firm manner; and, after the duties of the clergyman were over, the prisoner was launched into eternity amid a profound silence which pervaded the vast multitude."

The situation of *Yucatan* is becoming more and more deplorable. The apathy of the inhabitants encourages their ferocious enemies in their efforts to exterminate the white race. A conspiracy was detected on the 13th of February in the city of Merida. It was formed by the convicts in the city prison, in conjunction with some of the soldiers. The plan was arranged to release the prisoners, assassinate the city officers, and then plunder and burn the town. The plot was discovered a short time before it was to have been carried into effect. The ringleaders were arrested and condemned to death, but the execution of the sentence has been postponed; and the case has since been transferred to the city of Mexico, and still remains undecided.

NARRATIVE OF LITERATURE AND ART.

THE two leading publishers of the day have brought a question of some importance before the public in a correspondence with the premier on the subject of the manufacture and sale of school books, under Government sanction, and with the help of Government money, by the Irish Education Commission. These books, Messrs. Longman and Murray assert, are sold in England at prices below those for which books can be sold by booksellers in this country; and several of them, by which the English bookseller has been thus undersold, have proved to be flagrant piracies from the property of the very men so injured. It is further asserted that the agents of the Irish Commissioners are now in the habit of supplying, by means of their publications, as much as one-fourth of the whole English demand for school-books; and the complaint not only is that a monopoly is by this means established, to the injury of the private trader, but that the public are deprived of all security against inferior and dishonest compilations. There can be no doubt that this complaint is justly founded, and that a remedy will have to be applied. Government has not a jot more right to set up as book-makers and booksellers with the public money, and undersell the men of Albemarle-street or the Row, than they would have (in the language of the remonstrance to Lord John) "to take possession of the Isle of Wight, or some other district, to grow corn upon it, to construct bakehouses, and to supply the people with bread at less than its cost price, making up the deficit by taxes levied on those very agriculturists whom they had thus done their best to destroy." It is pleasant to find such sound principles as pervade these letters of the magnates of the "trade," signed by the publisher of the *Quarterly Review*.

The past has not been a busy month in publications of any importance, and our summary is necessarily brief.

The *Memoirs of William Wordsworth*, by his nephew, the Canon of Westminster, turns out to be no more than a lengthened and not very brilliant illustrative commentary, chiefly by the poet himself, of his various poetical writings. It has nothing of the variety, animation, or life of a real biography. The *Memoirs of Horace Walpole and his contemporaries*, though not deficient in either amusement or information, prefers almost as few claims to rank as a regular biography. It would be more correctly described as a series of papers on the principal incidents of Walpole's life, and the most notable of his acquaintances and friends. An ably executed *Life of the Hon. Henry Cavendish*, by Doctor George Wilson, issued as one of the volumes of the Cavendish Society, comes more within the formal biographical conditions; the nature of Cavendish's labours and discoveries justifying what might otherwise have been the too strictly scientific object subserved by Doctor Wilson. The volume contains abstracts of his more important scientific papers, and a very elaborate examination of the claims of the various discoverers of the composition of water.

The Rev. Mr. Shepherd's first volume of a proposed *History of the Church of Rome* may be described as a not unsuccessful attempt to adapt the method of Bayle to the purpose and form of modern publication. The text of the history is exceedingly brief and succinct, occupying perhaps not more than a fifth of the volume; but this is followed by illustrations and proofs at great length (in Bayle they would have been notes) of the various statements in the narrative. The plan is excellently adapted to the purpose of the writer, which is to subject to a searching and separate examination the authorities which alone exist for the pretences and impostures of the early Roman church. The period occupied by the volume is to nearly the close of the fourth century.—Two other publications connected with religion may also be mentioned in this place. Mr. Hamilton Thom and Mr. John James Tayler, two ministers of the Unitarian communion, in high and just esteem with all the members of that persuasion, have issued, the first a volume of discourses designed to convey the spirit and significance of *St. Paul's Epistles to the Corinthians*, and the second a volume of similar discourses meant to illustrate the *Christian Aspects of Faith and Duty*, both eloquently written, and in a very exalted religious tone.

Hartley Coleridge's *Essays and Marginalia* are full of interest and originality. So (with the additional element of moral courage and fearless inquiry of no ordinary kind) are Doctor William Gregory's *Letters to*

a Candid Inquirer on Animal Magnetism. Other noticeable works of a miscellaneous kind are *An Excursion to California over the Prairie, the Rocky Mountains, and the Great Sierra Nevada*, by a very lively and unaffected Irish writer; *London Exhibited in 1851*, by Mr. Weale, the architectural publisher, with the advantage of good scientific assistance; some *Sketches of the Poetical Literature of the last Half Century*, in the sensible if not very original style of what is called the old school, by Mr. D. M. Moir; a clever *Journal of a Landscape Painter in Albania*, by Mr. Lear; and two stories by lady writers, entitled *Caleb Field and Catherine Erlaf*, of which both the subjects are historical, and treated with considerable skill.

The *Theatrical productions* of the month have been of an ephemeral kind, consisting only of extravaganzas, and burlesques for the Easter holidays. No novelty has been brought forward at either of the Italian Opera Houses.

The sixth annual dinner of the friends of the *General Theatrical Fund* took place on the 14th, at the London Tavern. Mr. Charles Dickens occupied the chair, and the company consisted of nearly 200 gentlemen, among whom were many persons of literary distinction. The galleries were crowded with ladies, many of them being eminent actresses. The toast of the evening, "Prosperity to the Institution," was given by the chairman, and responded to by Mr. Buckstone, in his capacity of treasurer. As an evidence of the popularity and recognised utility of an institution that undertook to provide for the decayed and helpless of the whole theatrical calling, no matter to what particular theatre they belonged, or whether in the metropolis or the provinces, Mr. Buckstone mentioned that the assets at present in hand considerably exceeded 6,000*l.*; whereas the Drury-Lane Fund, when established for the same number of years, only reached two-thirds of that amount. After some references to legislative interference with the bestowal of theatrical annuities over 30*l.*, owing to the operation of the act relative to burial societies, he said that a charter was being applied for to obviate this difficulty, and he had no doubt the committee would be able to allow annuities to the utmost limits the generosity of the public would justify.—Mr. John Forster proposed the health of the chairman, who briefly returned thanks; and gave in succession, as the representatives of two most important branches of the dramatic art—the managerial and the acting—the healths of Mr. Webster and Mr. James Wallace, both gentlemen making their acknowledgments.

COMMERCIAL RECORD.

BANKRUPTS.

From the Gazette of April 1st.—G. T. MINOR, Mount-street, Lambeth, linen draper, to surrender.—J. COLE, Hampton Court, victualer.—E. HARERT and J. BLAND, Huntingdon, builders.—C. MAY and Co., Great Yarmouth, soap-manufacturers.—T. CLAYTON, Pottesgrove, Woburn, milkman.—J. BURY Jun., Sneyton, Nottinghamshire, cotton-waste-dealer.—R. DAVIS, Tredegar, Monmouthshire, draper.—E. THORNTON, Huddersfield, ironmonger.—I. J. and S. DEWHURST, Skipton, cotton-spinners.

April 4th. G. H. BRADBERRY and G. R. LOVE, Great Tower-street, flour-factors.—L. W. LLOYD, Goldhawk-terrace, Shepherd's-bush, builder.—J. GENTRY, Rocking, Essex, smith.—J. B. BROWSE, Newcastle-under-Lyme, wine-merchant.—R. MOATE, Mistoron, Nottinghamshire, innkeeper.—H. REYNOLDS, Aberdare, innkeeper.—W. ANDREWS, Liverpool, commission-merchant.—C. ROOPE, Liverpool, wine-merchant.—R. A. TAYLOR, Dunston, Durham, Epsom-salts-manufacturer.

April 8th. G. SMELLIE, High-street, Shadwell, silversmith.—R. PEACH, Thorney, Isle of Ely, butcher.—W. COX, Bloomfield-road, Harrow-road, stock-broker.—J. T. HOBSON, Wellingborough, corn-merchant.—W. ROBINSON, Trinity-square, Tower-bill, corn-factor.—G. F. JONES, East Ilsey, Berkshire, surgeon.—G. STOCKBRIDGE, Oxford-street, draper.—J. HILL, Holcombe Rogus, Devonshire, linen-draper.—J. MCLEAS, Liverpool, commission-merchant.

April 11th. R. GADESDEN, Brompton-square, coal-merchant.—F. E. D. HAST, Aldermanbury, merchant.—W. PRANGLEY, New Sarum, music-seller.—W. M. HILL, Charlton-place, Islington, builder.—J. HORWELL, Lower-marsh, Lambeth, cheesemonger.—R. E. GORST, Rock Terry, Cheshire, apothecary.—T. CAYE, South Kilworth, Leicestershire, innkeeper.—J. MANN, Warwick, victualer.—G. POWLESLAND, Meeth, Devonshire, dealer in seeds.—W. FRUDD, Barnsley, draper.—G. ROBSON, Jun., Osballdwick, Yorkshire, horse-dealer.—R. WALLEY, Accrington, Lancashire, mercer.

April 15th. W. R. MABSON, Highfield, Hampshire, auctioneer.—J. JOWETT, Bull-bridge, Derbyshire, shoe-merchant.—J. GRACIE, Bristol, woollen-draper.—W. FARROW, Hull, coal-merchant.—T. MOORE, Jun., South Hylton, Durham, merchant.—L. T. WANG, Sunderland, merchant.

April 18th. H. BEIGHT, Maldon, corn-merchant.—S. MANNING, Union-place, New-road, statutory.—T. and R. HATFIELD, Clapham.—J. PENNYCOT, Woolwich, grocer.—J. S. ROCHAT, St. Martin's-lane, watch-maker.—J. JOWETT, Bull-bridge, Derbyshire, merchant.—J. DEW and J. ESTILL, Bath, pawnbrokers.—G. WAUGH, Edenhall, Cumberland, banker.

April 25th. R. S. SMITH, Southsea, Southampton, ironmonger.—A. BLUMENTHAL, John-street, Crutched-friars, wine-merchant.—C. SNELLING, Gracechurch-street, hosier.—R. BROWN, Old Broad-street, auctioneer.—J. PEARSON, Kingswinford, Staffordshire, innkeeper.—R. ALEXANDER, Maesteg, Glamorganshire, grocer.—G. SAFCR, Heywood, Lancashire, grocer.—M. MEIKLE, Liverpool, pawnbroker.

April 22nd. A. S. BREESE and G. S. BREESE, Aylsham, Norfolk, ironmongers.—W. NEWMAN, Great Chart-street, Hoxton, colour-manufacturer.—J. A. RICHES, Halesworth, Suffolk, maltster.

BANKRUPTCIES ANNULLED.

April 4th. R. J. JOHNSON, Woolwich, plumber.

April 11th. E. HALL, Salford, small-ware-manufacturer.

April 15th. E. SMITH, Worcester, hop-merchant.

April 18th. W. FORD, High Holborn, haberdasher.

MONEY MARKET.

The English market has continued the even tenor of its way with but trifling interruption. The brokers spent many dull days at the end of March; very few transfers of three per cent. Consols having been effected at steady rates ranging at from 96½ to 97. The news of a fall in funds in the United States, and afterwards in Paris, at the beginning of April, caused a slight depression; but this was soon recovered. There has been more activity in the Foreign House. The last new Portuguese revolution sunk the low rates of Portuguese funds still lower; whilst the arrival of an order for two and a half millions of dollars payable in 1852, on account of the Mexican debt, put the Mexican bondholders in spirits, and the prices of that stock went up.

The mania for speculation in Railway Shares (in consequence of the enormous traffic expected on railways) rose to its height in the first week in April, when from 8 to 20 per cent. was paid by holders to have their accounts carried over till the middle of April. At the same time, so abundant was money, that only from 1 to 2 per cent could be obtained for loans on Consols! Railway speculation, however, received an early check, and the market is assuming a healthier tone.

STOCKS.	Highest.	Lowest.	Latest.
Three per Cent. Consols . . .	97½	96½	96½
Three per Cent. Reduced . . .	97	96½	96½
Three and a quarter per Cents. .	97	97½	97½
Long Annuities, Jan. 1860 . . .	7½	7½	7½
Bank Stock . . .	212	211½	211½
India Stock . . .	264½	261	261
Exchange Bills . . .	58s. prm.	51s. prm.	51s. prm.
India Bonds . . .	64s. prm.	54s. prm.	60s. prm.

FOREIGN FUNDS—LATEST PRICES.

Belgian 4½ per cent.,	New York (1858) 5 per cent.,
Brazilian 5 per cent.,	Pennsylvania 5 per cent.,
Chilian 3 per cent.,	Peruvian 5 per cent., 84½
Danish 3 per cent., 76½	(Deferred) 4 p. ct., 39½
Dutch 2½ pr. cent. 12 guild., 59½	Portuguese 5 per cent., 89
French 3 per cent., f. c.	Russian 4½ per cent., 99½
" 5 " f. c.	Spanish 5 per cent., acct.
Mexican, 5 per cent., 35½	Venezuela Bonds, 2½, 19½

Paid.	RAILWAYS.	Highest.	Lowest.	Latest.
all	Aberdeen . . .	16½	14½	14½
100	Brighton and South Coast .	98	95	97½
all	Blackwall . . .	84	74	8
100	Bristol and Exeter . . .	82	80	80½
50	Caledonian . . .	14	15½	15½
20	Eastern Counties . . .	75	73	75
50	Glasgow and Glasgow .	36½	34½	36½
all	Great Northern . . .	17½	15½	15½
all	London and Western, ex. div. .	89	89	89½
50	Hull and Selby . . .	102½	101½	101½
100	Lancashire and Yorkshire .	64½	60	64
100	London & North Western .	129½	128½	129½
100	Midland . . .	64½	61½	64½
25	North British . . .	10½	9½	10½
30	South Eastern and Dover .	26½	27	28½
100	South Western . . .	89	87½	89
25	York, Newc., and Berwick .	22½	21½	22½
50	York and North Midland .	28	26½	27½

FOREIGN RAILWAYS—LATEST PRICES.

Boulogne and Amiens, 9½	Paris and Rouen, 24½
East Indian, 13½	Paris and Strasbourg, 10½
Namur and Liege, 8½	Rouen and Havre, 10½
Northern of France, 14½	Tours and Nantes, 6½

CORN MARKET—LONDON WEEKLY AVERAGES.

Wheat, per qr., 39s. 5d.; Barley, 24s. 5d.; Oats, 17s. 5d.; Rye, 24s. 7d.; Beans, 28s. 10d.; Peas, 25s. 9d.; Flour (town made), delivered, 40s. to 44s.; American barrel of 250 lbs., 22s. to 23s.

PROVISIONS—LATEST WHOLESALE PRICES.

Bacon, per cwt., Waterford, 50s. to 57s.; Belfast, 44s. to 47s.	Hams, per cwt.—York or Cumberland, 60s. to 76s.; Irish, 68s.; Westphalia, 48s. to 51s.
Beef, per 8 lbs., mid. to prime, 2s. 2d. to 3s. 4d.	Mutton, per 8 lbs., mid. to prime 2s. 4d. to 3s. 6d.
Butter, per cwt.—Carlow, 1st, 64s. to 72s.; Waterford, 1st, 62s. to 70s.; Dutch Friesland, 82s. to 84s.; Limerick, 64s. to 72s.	Potatoes, per ton.—Kent and Essex, 59s. to 70s.; Kent and Essex Middling, 55s. to 75s.; Chats, 30s. to 35s.
Cheese, per cwt., Cheshire, 40s. to 56s.; Wiltshire, Double, 40s. to 53s.; Dutch, New, 40s. 29s.; American, 34s.	Pork, per cwt. 65s. to 70s.
Eggs, per 120, English, 4s. 6d. to 6s.	Veal, per 8 lbs., 3s. to 3s. 10d.

GROCERY—LATEST WHOLESALE PRICES.

Cocoa, per cwt. Ord. to good red Trinidad, 46s. to 55s.; Brazil, 28s. to 30s.	Sugar, per cwt.—Lumps, 48s. to 52s.; British West India, good grocery, 36s. to 42s.; Mauritius, brown, 28s. to 42s.; Brazil, do. 32s. to 44s.
Coffee, per cwt.—Good ord., native Ceylon, 41s. 6d. to 68s.; Mocha, 42s. to 80s.; Plantation, 45s. to 52s.; Java, 42s. to 52s.	Tea, per lb. (Duty 2s. 1d.)—Ord Congou, 11½ to 1s. 7d.; Souchong, com. to fine, 1s. to 2s. 8d.; ord. to fine Hyson, 1s. 2d. to 3s. 9d.; Imperial, 1s. 2d. to 2s. 6d.
Rice, per cwt.—Bengal mid. to fine white, 8s. 6d. to 11s. 6d.; Madras, 7s. to 9s. 6d.; Patna, 11s. to 17s.	

Candles, per 12 lbs., 4s. 6d. to 5s. 6d.; | Coals, per ton, 13s. 6d. to 21s.

OILS.

Pale Seal, per 252 gals., 34l. to 35l.	Palma, per ton, 29l. to 30l.
Sperm, 86l. to 88l.	Olive, Gallipoli, 41l.
Cod, 33l.	Linseed, 33l. 5s.

THE
HOUSEHOLD NARRATIVE
OF CURRENT EVENTS.

1851.]

FROM THE 27TH APRIL TO THE 28TH MAY.

[PRICE 2*d*.]

THE THREE KINGDOMS.

THE month of May 1851 will be long memorable as that of the opening of the Great Exhibition. The mere excitement of the show has even yet not subsided. The time is doubtless at hand when it will begin to yield the graver lessons which, in the presence of that wealth of natural products and those triumphs of human industry, may be expected to address themselves to nations as well as men. For the first time in the history of the earth have its workers and thinkers assembled from its remotest parts to show what each may give and each receive in a generous interchange of thought, invention, ingenuity, and taste; nor is it possible to imagine but that the world itself must largely profit by that first common assemblage of her children for a purpose so noble and peaceful. But such greater agencies hitherto have been working in silence. On the surface only curiosity and excitement have been visible; and these so insatiable and eager as to have pushed aside every other description of enjoyment, almost every other claim of duty. The theatres have been deserted, the shops unfrequented, gardens and picture galleries unattractive, the railways cheated of their summer crowds, and parliament counted out every other night. Nobody has had a care or thought but for the gay furniture of Austria, or the veiled sculpture of Milan, or the jewels of the Queen of Spain, or the mountain of light from Lahore, or the regal treasures of India, or Pugin's mediæval court, or the carpets and lace of Brussels, or the glass of Bohemia, or the shawls and brocades and packsaddles of Tunis, or the stuffed animals from Wurtemberg, or the scarfs and tobacco-pipes from Damascus, or the Sèvres china and tapestry, or the English pottery and porcelain, or the little boy who presides over the envelope-folder of Mr. Delarue. Graver matters are therefore still waiting their turn. There will come a time for the ploughs and scarifiers, for the mules and power-looms, for the centrifugal pumps and vertical printing-presses, for the hardware and textile fabrics, as well as for the raw materials of produce, the mineral, vegetable, and animal treasures out of which industry and art have hitherto won so much, and are now contemplating the acquisition of so much more. With the earnest desire that these hopes may not be disappointed, and that in its results this extraordinary undertaking may minister as largely to the enduring triumphs of science and the useful arts, as it has already ministered to the curiosity and pleasure of all classes of the people, we may leave for the present the Great Exhibition.

With that desire one subject of overmastering importance cannot fail to connect itself, and it happens to be one of the few which even above the dust and din from Hyde Park has been able to make itself visible and audible in the House of Commons. Mr. Fox has again attempted, and failed, to obtain the consent of that house to a plan for promoting the education of the people by the establishment of free schools for secular instruction, to be supported by local rates and managed by committees elected specially for that purpose by the rate payers. His speech was temperate, and based on principles as well as facts the most irrefragable. He repeated and reinforced the truth never to be too often insisted on, that education is the only social safeguard against crime; and he exhibited the awful inadequacy of the means at present existing to render that safeguard effective, or to cope with the increasing mass of misery and vice which eludes all resources of police, as it baffles all the efforts of philanthropy. He contrasted the gains of education and skilled labour in England with the degradation and loss attendant upon the ignorance in which our unskilled labourers are kept. He exhibited the energy and genius of Englishmen unsurpassed in the contest of intellect and skill, wherever the means were offered; he dwelt upon the glories of our national institutions, of our literary fame, of our naval and military achievements; and he pointed out with what just pride we might contemplate the rank we took in the great national competition of arts and industry which now absorbed the public attention. It was not till the condition of what are called the lower orders amongst us attracted inquiry that we were obliged to descend from our proud pre-eminence. Then it became no longer the question whether or not we stood first, but whether we stood sixth, tenth, or twelfth in the means and appliances of popular education. None of these statements were denied—to dispute them was impossible. But the old arguments of principle were urged (for in detail all other points of difference might easily have been accommodated) to any system of education with which religion was not compulsorily joined. The insincerity as well as fallacy of this objection lies in its imputing to the advocates of secular education what is called an indifference to religion. Nothing can be more uncandid or more untrue. All of them would argue, as Mr. Fox did, that without religion there can be no education deserving of the name; what they add to this, and would agitate for, is the conviction, such is the variety and inveteracy of the several forms of sectarian belief in England, that the efforts of the schoolmaster, in schools maintained by the public, should be confined to preparing and expanding the mind for receiving religious training from the parents at the domestic hearth, and from the ministers of religion in church or chapel. Is it conceivable that what is called secular education should have any other effect than this? What is the education for which alone all the better provided classes are indebted to their several schools, if it be not strictly secular? How much of the Bible is held inseparable from Homer and Horace, how much of the Evidences from Thucydides and Livy, in the schools where all our senators are bred? Admitting the paramount importance of religious instruction, who can possibly doubt, excepting those wise senators themselves, but that this importance is enhanced and confirmed by instruction in other

departments of knowledge, and a wider exercise of the mental faculties? The capacity of most fully comprehending and acting on the truths of religion will surely be always best derived from that kind of education which gives a practical force and direction to those truths in relation to the duties of society. We talk, dishonestly and disingenuously, of secular education as if it excluded religion, when in fact it is the only discipline which rightly prepares the mind for religious truth; and some such scheme as that proposed and summarily rejected by the House of Commons the other night (in principle, that is, for in points of management and detail we should possibly differ very widely from Mr. Fox), would not only furnish that needful training, but would also, in the only possible way, provide for the efficacy of religious teaching itself by giving free scope to the efforts of every religious sect. The result of the arguments now employed (and by none with greater zeal than the new Solicitor-General) is substantially to declare ignorance a thing preferable to knowledge; for to set up a special religious basis practically consigns the people to ignorance, rather than that knowledge should be diffused on any other system than their own. And great will be the rejoicing in the halls of ignorance, so long as the advocates of secular and religious instruction are thus kept hopelessly apart from meeting on a common ground, or combining for a common object.

Altogether indeed the public prospect, or out-look, must be regarded as a peculiarly cheerful one in those gloomy quarters. For every drubbing that education has lately had, there has been a hopeful pat on the back for ignorance. It is tolerably clear for instance, from revelations just made, that the operations of the Education Committee of Privy Council are not far from being brought to a stand-still; for it is now confessed, that even of the grants last obtained from Parliament, a very large proportion remains unappropriated. The dominant Church faction will not have Church grants without a perfect freedom from State conditions, or, in other words, without obtaining for the parochial clergy the whole power of parochial education; and the Government authorities very properly refuse State grants where the laity are not ensured a certain control over the secular management of the schools. Here comes the dead lock so pleasant in the quarters we have named; and of which the only thing favourable to be said is, that at least it has the advantage of doing nothing; whereas to yield to the high-flying demands of the Church in the matter, would be to do a vast amount of irreparable mischief. One more attempt is to be made in a few days to defeat that party in the National Society; but it is to be feared, from past experience, that anything fair to the rest of the community in regard to education is not now to be expected from a body so notoriously bound up with the high party in the Church. Oxford still points the example and leads the way; and Oxford decided, about a week ago, by a majority in convocation of more than two to one, to petition her Majesty to revoke the Royal Commission for inquiring into the studies and discipline of the university! If her Majesty declines compliance with this modest petition, then the petitioners demand to be heard before herself in council against the legality of the commission of the crown. How unchangeable is Oxford amid the changes of everything else in the world! This is the same Oxford still which on the day of Lord William Russell's execution passed in full convocation a decree of adhesion to divine right and passive obedience, and was the first to take arms against the Sovereign a very few days later, when the butteries and strong boxes of her colleges were suddenly attacked and invaded.

Nor is this the whole of the inspiring news at which the advocates of ignorance have reason to be joyful. Intelligence has come from Rome of the final ratification, by the Pope, of all the canons and decrees of the Synod of Thurles against the Queen's Colleges in Ireland. The colleges are declared dangerous to faith and morals, disruption is pronounced between them and all the Catholic clergy who have heretofore supported them, the Catholic deans and vice-presidents are to flee from further intercourse with the heretic, and even the laity are to be called upon, under threat of ecclesiastical penalties, to withdraw their children from among the students, and prevent them from availing themselves in future of any kind or class of knowledge taught in those establishments. This news arrives too late to permit us to speculate as to its probable consequences. But if the Catholic laity are indeed so far subjected to their priests as to obey a decree so intolerant and impudent, the consequences both social and political cannot but be serious. Meanwhile, let this fresh assertion of the silly and arrogant obstinacy of the Romish Church be used as a comment and illustration to the crawling and contemptible debates which prolong still the wearisome discussion of the Ecclesiastical Titles Bill. But really of this discussion nothing better or worse is to be said than that it is exactly such as the measure deserved. One night was occupied with a debate whether the bill involved a question of religion or not; another night was passed in wandering round a new declaratory clause or preamble, framed by way of compromise with the tory demand for something vigorous in the way of formal condemnation of the papal rescript; a third has been passed in attempts to elicit from the lawyers what the law was without the bill, and what it might, would, could, or should be with it; and a fourth has been devoted to a succession of amendments invented by the Irish members, each meaning just the same as its precursor, and none having any other object, real or pretended, than obstruction and delay.

The house has meanwhile, however, been moderate in its dullness on other subjects. Early in the month ministers were defeated by a majority of fourteen on the question of limiting the duration of the income-tax to one year, with a view to a committee of inquiry before it shall be imposed for any longer period with its present inequalities; and not many days after this defeat they suffered a similar disaster, though by only the small majority of one, on Lord Nass's motion against the present mode of levying the excise duty on whiskey. But since these incidents the house has been so much on its good behaviour, to say nothing of its having become extraordinarily foud of going to the Exhibition, that it has run away from every subject that threatened to be serious. There has been no house for parliamentary reform, a count-out for the colonies, infinite doublings and delays for Borneo and Ceylon, and so little relish for Protection that all the long-winded orators of that faction have been driven to practise out of doors. The month began with a monster demonstration of top-boots at Drury Lane, at which, after everybody had abused what Lord Stanley has avowed to be his policy, the Duke of Richmond consistently and ingeniously advised everybody to stick by Lord Stanley. Then a fresh avowal having meanwhile been let drop by the protectionist leader and advocate of a low fixed duty in the House of Lords to the effect that the object of legislation should ever be the benefit of the consumer (as pregnant a free-trade doctrine as was ever uttered), a noted out-of-doors agitator, Lord Stanhope, took occasion at Cranworth to denounce the shilly-shally dealers in that sort of vague nonsense which supposed that Protection might mean nothing more than a low fixed duty which would not raise the price to the consumer "Need he observe, that such a measure as

that would be utterly useless to those whose interests they were anxious to promote?" Then, close upon the heels of Lord Stanhope, came the polite Mr. Ferrand, who, after indulging the characteristic aspiration that, in the event of a righteous issue to the contest of protectionists and free traders, Bright might be hanged at Manchester, Cobden at Leeds, and Graham at Carlisle, denounced to general wrath and scorn everybody who would stop short of re-enacting the old corn law. That, and nothing less than that, was now required to protect the labourers of this country. "It was a labour law," and "the government was bound to re-enact it," and to "place the labourers on the land so as to give them the means of earning their daily bread." Nor had a week passed after Mr. Ferrand, at Aylesbury, had thus exhibited social sentiments worthy of Louis Blanc in the unsocial language so peculiarly worthy of himself, when Mr. G. F. Young, at Ipswich, as though inspired by the odd ambition of taking the lead even of Mr. Ferrand's insolence and impudence, had the execrable bad taste to say, that "having had good opportunities of observing the political career of Sir R. Peel, he would not allow any mawkish sensibility, on account of the fact that that man was removed from the sphere of existence, to deter him from expressing his opinion that there never was a man who had occupied so important a part in the counsels of this country who had been, throughout his whole career, so insincere and disingenuous; and, so far from thinking it a public calamity that it had pleased Providence to remove him, he thought that, having inflicted almost irreparable injury on his country, which, had he been spared, he might have carried still further, it was a *gracious dispensation of Providence that he had been removed.*" The reporters of this effusion add that loud cheers broke forth at its close, with slight marks of disapprobation. For the sake of the social decencies commonly respected by all parties, it is a pity that the cheering should have been so loud and the disapprobation so slight; but the incident confirms that widening difference, and incompatibility of aim and desires, which we have been exhibiting in our remarks, and which every one now observes in men who in reality are clamouring less eagerly for Protection than they are quarrelling among themselves as to what the word should be held to imply.

Truth to say, the times are becoming less and less favourable to the clamour in question, and the more experienced and sagacious men of the party are not slow to perceive it. Take for example the last public return showing the amount of money expended for in-maintenance and out-door relief "in six hundred and seven unions and single parishes, in England and Wales, during the half-years' ending at Lady Day, 1850, and 1851 respectively." It happens that the portion of the kingdom embraced in this return is chiefly agricultural; and that the figures show a positive decrease of pauperism, and a consequent diminution of those local burdens which, according to Mr. Disraeli, affect real property most peculiarly and oppressively, to the amount of upwards of seven per cent. In some counties it extends higher; reaching to more than eleven per cent in Durham, to more than twelve in Cornwall, to more than thirteen in the West Riding, and to more than fourteen in Warwick and Middlesex. But even in the strictly agricultural counties, such as Bedford, Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Devonshire, Dorsetshire, Essex, Kent, Northampton, Southampton, Sussex, Westmoreland, Wiltshire, and parts of Yorkshire, the average of the decrease is upwards of seven per cent. These are figures to which there is no answer; and they triumphantly confirm the arguments and expectations of the free traders. Free trade is already relieving the land after the very fashion proposed by Mr. Disraeli himself; and if the landowners had any faith in that gentleman they ought now at once to cashier and abandon Mr. Ferrand and Mr. Young.

Several fatal accidents, and one of a peculiarly distressing nature, have again directed attention to the insufficient guarantees for public safety existing in the management of Railway Companies. If any writer of fiction had imagined such an incident as that of the Frodsham Tunnel, on the Chester Junction Railway, it would at once have been condemned as too monstrous to be credible. An overloaded train was started with an utterly powerless and inefficient engine, and with carriages so crazy that the weight of the passengers acted as breaks on the wheels. A second and a third train were dispatched after the first, with no regard to the necessary intervals between them. No back lights were affixed to the trains; the policemen commonly stationed at the entrance of the steep and dangerous tunnel which they were to pass through, had been withdrawn; the guard of the second train, which had suddenly jammed against the first, never thought of backing for any signal to the third, which he knew to be coming on; and on came the third train accordingly, to scatter dismay and death. Nor had the horror at this catastrophe subsided, when, by mismanagement exactly similar in respect of irregularity in the despatch of trains, the Midland Railway became the scene of a tragedy hardly less terrible. Such occurrences render it clear that, without anything like a vexatious interference with the general power and regulation of railway companies, the legislature might advantageously assume some such control as would at least compel settled intervals between the dispatch of trains, and a better system of signal lights between fast and slow trains. No fair objection could be made to such an act of legislation, which would be simply an application to railway companies of the precautionary measures adopted in other quarters where the public safety has seemed to require them.

NARRATIVE OF PARLIAMENT AND POLITICS.

IN the HOUSE OF LORDS, on Monday, May 5, Lord STANLEY presented a petition from a number of shipowners and others, connected with the merchant service, praying for the repeal of, or extensive alterations in, the *Mercantile Marine Act*, and suggested the appointment of a select committee on the subject.—Earl GRANVILLE said, he had no objection to a select committee, but the government had no intention of making any important alterations on the bill of last year.

On Friday, May 9, Lord LYTTLETON presented petitions signed by many thousand inhabitants of Van Diemen's Land, praying for the ceasing of transportation to that colony. He contended that we are not justified in using our imperial power against colonies

which cannot resist the pressure we bring to bear against them, in forcing upon them a lower standard of morality than that by which we regulate our own society at home.—The Archbishop of DUBLIN gave testimony, founded on a recent visit to the Mountjoy dépôt recently established in Dublin, of his belief that the working of that prison has solved many problems which up to this time have appeared to him incapable of solution; and he added, that everything he has heard of late respecting the penal colonies confirmed his most dismal apprehensions that in such society the convicts cannot be permanently reclaimed.—The Bishop of OXFORD adhered to the clear principle, that to create a penal colony is a great sin in an enlightened nation: the great difficulties of the subject *must* be faced and overthrown.—Earl GREY defended the existing and improving system; and averred that in a few years the colonies will be contending to receive the reformed convicts.

On Monday, May 12, the Earl of GLENGALL presented a petition from the grand jury of Tipperary, praying for *Protection against the Importation of Foreign Flour*. A long discussion on the thread-bare question of protection followed, and the petition was laid on the table.

Lord BROUGHTON, on Tuesday, March 13, moved the second reading of the *Marriages (India) Bill*, and stated that the bill was founded on two principles,—first, that of legalising marriages which have been duly celebrated by clergymen of the Established Church, or dissenting communions in India, and secondly that of establishing in India the present law of England on the subject. The bill was read a second time.

On Monday, May 19th, the Marquis of LANSDOWNE moved the second reading of the *Income Tax Bill*. He supported the measure, though it belongs to a system of taxation to which he is, on general principle, no friend, in order that our great commercial and manufacturing prosperity be continued, by the removal of even more onerous loads of taxation.—Lord STANLEY recalled the blundering phraseology of the bill,—for which, he considered, the government subordinates were blameable, as they should have examined whether the amendment was consistent with the context; and then said, that as the peers must reject it altogether, or take it altogether—blundering as it is—he would not vote against it. However, the government had to reconsider the whole subject in the next year; and he believed they would find it expedient to remove the greater part of the anomaly and injustice of this obnoxious tax. The bill was read a second time without a division.

On Tuesday, May 20th, Lord WHARNCLIFFE asked Lord Grey for an explanation of the mode in which the commission appointed by the government to proceed to the Cape had been appointed.—Earl GREY explained that the commission about to be sent to the Cape was not, strictly speaking, one of inquiry. The two gentlemen selected were to act as assistant commissioners under Sir Harry Smith, who was invested with a separate authority as high commissioner for the adjustment of claims made for land by the border tribes. The gentlemen appointed were intimately acquainted with the habits of the colonists and the natives, and he had no doubt would be enabled to render Sir H. Smith the greatest assistance.

On Thursday, May 22nd, the Earl of CARLISLE moved the second reading of the *Episcopal and Capitular Estates Bill*. The Archbishop of Canterbury consented to the second reading, hoping that the measure might be amended in committee.—The Bishop of OXFORD moved as an amendment, that a select committee be appointed to inquire into the management of the capitular and episcopal property, giving due regard to the just and reasonable claims of tenants.—The Earl of CARLISLE warmly opposed this step, as virtually a defeat of a bill whose principle seemed to meet general concurrence. On a division, the second reading was carried, by 46 to 28.

On Friday, May 23rd, the Bishop of OXFORD asked the government how far they had carried out, and were intending to carry out, their alterations in the fundamental principles of the *Administration of Pentonville Prison*.—Earl GREY replied to the effect that the prison was now upon a somewhat different footing than when first established. It was then merely an experimental institution to try the effect of separate confinement, in order to ascertain whether that system ought to be generally adopted. The experiment had proved highly successful, and it was now the policy of the executive that every criminal should pass through a period, more or less lengthened, of separate confinement. The alterations which had been made did not affect the principle.

On Monday the 26th, Lord ELLENBOROUGH moved an address to the Crown for the production of papers relating to the disposal of the booty acquired in the Punjab, and explanatory of the right of the Crown to dispose of such booty. It was not the first time that he had brought this question forward, and though on a former occasion he had been met by a declaration that six months' batta would be granted to the troops

engaged in lieu of the booty—a declaration at which he had too hastily expressed his satisfaction—he had thought it right to bring the subject before the house again, because he thought that justice had not been done to the troops.—Lord BROUGHTON regretted that the noble Lord should have brought forward this question again, especially as, having on a former occasion declared that the troops for whom he pleaded would have no cause to complain if they got six months' batta, he now seemed to think that full justice had not been done them though they had received that amount of extra pay. The noble Lord proceeded to read the opinions of the law officers of the Crown, which stated that the arrangement of which Lord Ellenborough complained could not be legally impugned, and concluded by saying that all the returns moved for could not be produced, but if Lord Ellenborough really wanted them, some portion of them should be laid before the house.—After some observations from the Duke of WELLINGTON to the effect that any assumption of authority by the Governor-General in India must necessarily be confirmed by the Government at home—the Lord CHANCELLOR entered into some explanation between the Crown and the Maharajah of Lahore; and after some further discussion it was settled that a part of the motion should be agreed to, so far as the papers asked for could be given, and the rest of the motion be negatived.

The HOUSE OF COMMONS, on Monday, April 28, resumed its sittings after the Easter Holidays.—The second reading of *The Property-tax Bill* having been moved, Mr. SPOONER moved its being read a second time that day six months. He argued at great length against the tax, describing it as pressing most unfairly upon the agricultural interest, and declaring that a spirit of opposition to the tax had been excited that might lead to serious consequences. After bringing forward former opinions of members of the present government upon the subject, he said that the time would come when recent legislation would have to be rescinded, and when we should resort once more to indirect taxation.—Mr. MUNTZ seconded the amendment.—Mr. FRESHFIELD thought that the bill should be read a second time, with the understanding that it should be modified in committee. He was disposed to support the re-imposition of the tax for a limited time, as he was not prepared to give up a large amount of income, without seeing what was to be substituted.—The Chancellor of the EXCHEQUER contended for the necessity of maintaining the tax, which alone could enable him to repeal the window and other duties proposed to be removed. He appealed to the house whether it was prepared to reverse previous decisions to which it had come upon the subject of taxation, or to create a deficiency. He called upon it to reject the amendment, and announced that he should propose to go into committee on Friday.—Mr. M'GREGOR supported the second reading of the bill, but considered the present schedules iniquitous.—Mr. DISRAELI was not prepared to vote against the second reading, and, thinking that Mr. Spooner's objections to the bill might properly be taken in committee, would advise him not to divide.—Mr. SPOONER declined to withdraw his motion, which was accordingly put and negatived.

On Tuesday, April 29, the Sergeant-at-Arms informed the house that he had been unable to capture any of the parties charged with kidnapping the witnesses who should have given evidence before the *St. Alban's Election Committee*.—Lord J. RUSSELL gave notice that he should next day move an address for a proclamation offering rewards for the apprehension of such persons.—Sir G. GREY moved for leave to bring in a *Bill for the better supply of Water to the Metropolis*. He dwelt upon the hardships at present experienced for want of a due supply of pure water, adducing in proof the recommendations of the Board of Health upon the subject. The government plan was to amalgamate the nine existing water companies, and to place them under the control of a single board. This board was to be subject to the control of the government. The quarters whence water was to be, for the future, obtained, were to be decided on in accordance with the report of the competent

scientific investigators who had been employed to make the necessary inquiries. Powers were to be given to the parish authorities to compel the laying on of water to dwellings requiring it. The machinery of the existing companies was to be purchased at a valuation. The dividend of the consolidated company was at first to be 5l. per cent., and was at no time to exceed 6l. per cent. He added that he proposed that the bill should go before a select committee. After a desultory conversation leave was given to bring in the bill.—Mr. EWART moved a resolution to the effect that the mitigation in the law respecting the punishment of death, should be *Extended to the Colonies*; but the house was counted out during his speech.

On Wednesday, April 30, on the motion of Lord John RUSSELL, an address was agreed to, praying for a royal proclamation of a reward for the apprehension of the persons connected with the *St. Alban's Election*, who had hitherto eluded the service of the Speaker's warrant.—In answer to a question from Mr. Hume, respecting the *Admission of Exhibitors to the Great Exhibition*, Mr. LABOUCHERE said, that the question relative to the gratuitous admission to the Exhibition of all exhibitors, without limitation, had been already most maturely considered by the royal commissioners, who had come to the unanimous conclusion that it would be impossible to allow the unlimited admission of 15,000 exhibitors at all times. Exceptions would be made in peculiar cases, and he had reason to know that it was the intention of her Majesty to visit the Exhibition on one of the Saturday mornings when the general public would be admitted.—The motion by Mr. WILLIAMS to consider in Committee his measure for restraining *Sunday Trading in London*, called forth the same opposition from Mr. Anstey, Mr. Baring Wall, and Mr. Lennard, which has been offered at different stages; on the ground that the bill is partial and tyrannical, as well as of bad general principle. The house was cleared for a division, but no division was taken; and the debate was adjourned for a fortnight.

On Thursday, May 1, the second reading of the *Oath of Abjuration (Jews) Bill* was opposed by Mr. NEWDEGATE, who moved the second reading that day six months. After a debate which was destitute of novelty, the second reading was carried by a majority of 25, the numbers being 202 against 177.

On Friday, May 2, Mr. CHILDERS called the attention of the house to the *Diocesan Synod announced by the Bishop of Exeter*, and asked what government was prepared to do in relation to it.—Lord J. RUSSELL said that he had taken the opinion of the law officers of the Crown upon the question. It did not appear to the government that, though the Bishop of Exeter chose to call his proposed assembly a synod, it bore any real resemblance to one, or came under the terms of the 25th Henry VIII. That act provided (*inter alia*) against the enactment, by provincial synods, of canons intended to bind the Church. The Bishop of Exeter disclaimed any such intention, and the proposed assembly would not be unlawful, though he considered it most unfortunate that his lordship should give it a name that led to misapprehension. He described such a synod as was intended as new to the Church, and as a mere device of the bishops. It was probable that, under cover of a declaration of adherence to the doctrine of baptismal regeneration, the bishop designed to impugn the law as laid down in the Gorham case; but the course he might take remains to be seen. Referring to language which the bishop had already used in reference to the Archbishop of Canterbury, Lord John Russell said that the mildness of character of the archbishop, and his Christian forbearance, were well known; and but for that knowledge, such language would not have been employed. But as regarded the future, he felt convinced that, without the aid of government or parliament, the Prime of all England would so conduct himself that, though he would not stoop to the employment of unworthy language, he would not be found wanting in the firm assertion of the true doctrines of his Church.—The house went into committee on the *Property-tax Bill*. After several amendments proposed by Mr. Freshfield, had been negatived without a division, Mr. HUME moved an amendment for *Limiting the duration of the Tax to One Year*, with the object of having

the whole question settled in a select committee. This amendment was supported by Alderman Thompson, Mr. Mowatt, Mr. Buck, Mr. M'Gregor, and the Marquis of Granby.—Mr. COBDEN opposed it, remarking upon the support which Mr. Hume would receive from the protectionists as anything but evidence that the latter wished to render taxation more equitable as regarded the professional, trading, and working classes, whom Mr. Hume desired to relieve. On the contrary, the transparent policy of that party was to increase the burdens upon those classes. There were 15,000,000l. of other taxes which he would remove before he abolished this impost, which, however, though right in its principle, he desired to revise.—Mr. SIDNEY HERBERT opposed the amendment, contending that it would be impossible for the government to make any permanent reductions in the coffee and timber duties if they had only one year's income-tax before them. The budget would fall to the ground, and there would be a fresh scramble for a surplus, for the maintenance of which there could be no security.—Sir Charles Wood commented on the inconsistency of Mr. Hume, who desired the tax to be permanent, yet limited it to the shortest period; quoted the authority of Sir Robert Peel for the present form of the tax; and backed the reason given by Mr. Sidney Herbert for opposing the amendment. It was impossible to propose fiscal reductions with nearly 5,000,000l. dependent on an annual vote, especially at a time when no man could say what events might happen in Europe within any given number of months hence.—Mr. DISRAELI supported the amendment, mainly because the assessments proposed for the property tax it was sought to renew were inequitable, and because it was possible to render them less so. He retorted upon Mr. Cobden with a quotation from one of that gentleman's speeches, made in 1845, in which he described the income tax as a "fungus upon the tree of monopoly, and only rendered necessary by the corn laws." Denying that the protectionists had any intention of damaging "the commercial policy of the nation" by a side vote, he declared that their conduct that night was dictated by their sense of the private injustice and the political danger of the tax.—Lord John RUSSELL severely censured the course Mr. Hume had taken, and dwelt upon the anomalous support he had succeeded in obtaining. There could be no doubt as to the views of the protectionists, studiously as Mr. Disraeli had sought to conceal those views. Their object was to overthrow direct taxation, and to restore a duty on corn. His lordship humorously compassionated Mr. Disraeli's difficulties with his indiscreet and eager followers, and prophesied that he would one day refuse "to march through Coventry" with such an insubordinate array. Controverting various protection arguments, and vindicating his own former conduct in reference to the tax in question, he reminded the advocates of a corn tax that they must either run the risk of disappointing the agriculturists by doing little, or irritating the people by doing much. Referring to the opening of the Crystal Palace as chiefly gratifying, inasmuch as it exhibited a mighty mass of the humbler classes content, because believing that justice was done them, he warned the supporters of protection against exciting a contrary belief among the thousands of the people. He then dwelt upon the impolicy of exposing such an enormous portion of the national revenue as was supplied by the income tax to the chances of an annual vote, and described such a course as fraught with danger to the institutions of the country. After some observations from Mr. Muntz and Mr. Roebuck in support of the amendment, the committee divided, and Mr. Hume's amendment was carried by 244 to 230. The announcement of this majority of 14 against the government was received with loud cheers.

On Monday, May 5, the house having gone into committee on the *Income-tax Bill*, Lord John RUSSELL stated the course the cabinet meant to take in reference to the resolution of the house limiting the grant of the tax to one year. The house, by a majority of fourteen, had come to a decision that one year instead of three should be the period for which the property and income tax should last. Mr. Hume, who made the motion to that effect, stated, as his ground for doing so, that it was

desirable that an inquiry should take place with regard to this tax, with a view of making it more just and equal, and that he wished, such alterations and modifications having been introduced, that the tax should be continued, and that it should be made permanent. "I could not agree (said Lord John Russell), nor do I now come to the conclusion, that it was desirable to abridge the duration of the tax for this purpose. But the house having decided otherwise, it was for us to consider what course we should take, so as to maintain public credit and the financial system of the country. Now, although, in my opinion, it is very inexpedient so far to place such a tax in jeopardy as to make it last only for a year, yet I cannot suppose that the majority of the house which agreed to that motion had any view, any intention of placing in jeopardy the public credit of the country. Therefore, sir, concluding that such would be the intention of the house, we have to consider whether or no we can adopt the resolution of the house, and proceed with the bill in its present shape. Now, many gentlemen who in private have argued this question with me, have said that there is a general impression in the country that the income tax, which is at present unequal, might be made more just and equal; and when I have answered that Mr. Pitt and Sir Robert Peel, and others who have been in office, and had to carry on the financial arrangements of the country, have always come to a different conclusion, it has been replied to me, that if the conclusions to which those eminent men came should be supported by an inquiry, the country would feel satisfied by the result of that inquiry. If, on the other hand, it should be shown that the tax by modification could be made more fair and equal, in that case such alterations might be adopted. So that in either way the maintenance of the tax might be secured. I have no doubt that those who have expressed this opinion in private acted on that view when they gave their support to the motion on Friday last. Seeing, then, that contrary to our opinion, the house has come to that resolution, we think it desirable, in the present state of affairs, that there should be inquiry upon this subject. I think, such having been the decision of the house, that it would neither be fair nor wise to attempt to refuse or evade that inquiry; but that there ought to be a fair inquiry, and one conducted by the men who in this house are generally the leaders upon financial subjects, and to whom the house is disposed to pay deference. I should therefore say that the government is prepared to agree that there shall be a fair and full inquiry upon the subject." But in making this concession, Lord John considered that he and his colleagues had these rights—namely, that it ought to be made clear to them during the pendency of the inquiry to which he now consented, there would be no further alterations of the income tax diminishing the produce of that tax during the year; and that the arrangements proposed by Sir Charles Wood in reference to the house-tax in lieu of the window tax, and to the reduction of the timber and coffee duties, would be sanctioned.—A desultory discussion then arose, originating in regard to a notice of motion by Colonel Sibthorp for altering the tax as affecting tenant-farmers, but deviating into a debate whether it had been understood on the protectionist side that the vote of Friday night comprised a reference to a select committee.—Mr. DISRAELI suggested that the chairman should report progress, so that Colonel Sibthorp's motion might come on upon the bringing up of the report.—Lord J. RUSSELL refused his assent to any other course than that he had laid down, namely, the passing the bill, imposing the tax, precisely as it stood, for one year, with the reference to the committee proposed by Mr. Hume.—In conclusion, the bill went through committee.

Lord John RUSSELL stated the intended course of the government on the subject of *Official Salaries*. After some introductory remarks, he said that the most important alterations, suggested by the select committee, were the following. The junior lords of the treasury were to receive 1000*l.* a-year instead of 1200*l.*, and the secretary of the treasury 2000*l.* instead of 2500*l.* The mastership of the mint had been made unpolitical, and offered to Sir John Herschel. The offices of paymaster of the forces and vice-president of the board of trade were combined two years ago: the government did not

think it expedient to reduce the salary by 500*l.* a-year. Nor did it propose to abolish the office of lord privy seal. The proposition to reduce the salary of the chief secretary for Ireland from 5500*l.* to 3000*l.* was intimately connected with the question of abolishing the lord-lieutenancy: if the latter office be not abolished, it would seem desirable to reduce the salary of the former. The government proposed that the salary of the parliamentary secretary of the poor-law board be 1000*l.* instead of 1500*l.* as proposed by the committee. The government proposed that the salaries of the lord chancellor should be 10,000*l.* a-year instead of 14,000*l.* (from two sources) as at present; that of the chief justice of the Queen's Bench 8000*l.* instead of 7000*l.* as proposed by the committee; and those of the chief justice of the Common Pleas and the chief baron, 7000*l.* instead of 6000*l.* as proposed. Persons appointed after last year would be subject to the new arrangement. The recommendations of the committee in reference to the diplomatic service included a proposal to reduce our embassy at Paris to a mission. The government strongly objected to that, as an ambassador has certain privileges which do not belong to an envoy, but proposed the reduction of the salary from 12,000*l.* to 10,000*l.* The proposal to reduce our embassy to the Ottoman Porte to a mission could not be acceded to. At Vienna this reduction had already been made. The proposal to consolidate all our German missions in one central mission was particularly inapt at the present moment, when such different interests and different views prevail in every court in Germany. The suggested consolidation of the Florence mission with that of Turin was objectionable; but the recommendation that the Turin mission might be united with one at Rome certainly has its prospective advantages. Although the terms of the Diplomatic Relations with Rome Act prevents the dispatch hither of a Roman minister, government understood that the court of Rome would be ready at any time to receive a special mission: and notwithstanding recent circumstances, we must look forward to having relations at some future time with the court of Rome, and the mission to Florence would be the most convenient mode of communication. At the end of his explanations Lord John observed, that whether the house adopted the recommendations of the committee or the proposals of the government, there would be no material saving to the public. As the explanations of Lord John Russell were unannounced beforehand, the house was not prepared to discuss them. After some brief criticisms on the diplomatic items by Mr. Urquhart and Mr. Cobden—the latter declaring that so little attention had been paid to the recommendations as almost to make him decline to serve on any committees in future—and a brief vindication of the government resolutions on this part of the subject by Lord Palmerston, the subject dropped.

On Tuesday, May 6, a motion was made by Lord NAAS that the house should go into committee on the mode of levying *Duty on Home-made Spirits taken out of Bond*; with the intention of considering the same resolution upon the subject which ministers twice unsuccessfully opposed last session, and ultimately defeated only by strong party exertions. The case assumed by Lord Naas was, that the Irish and Scotch distillers are injured by the present mode of levying the duty on home-made spirits taken out of excise-bond—upon the quantity originally placed in bond, instead of on the quantity taken out of bond, notwithstanding the large deduction from the original amount which is made by evaporation and leakage. The government case in reply is that this leakage and evaporation is a known average quantity, for which, in the fixing of the relative duties on home-made spirits and foreign-made spirits, the home maker receives an ample allowance; the distinctive modes of levying the duties being made necessary by the increased and different facilities for fraud placed in the way of the home producer. Lord Naas went over his case much as he explained it last year.—Mr. James Wilson and the Chancellor of the Exchequer repeated the government objections.—Mr. Reynolds, Mr. Carter, Mr. Grogan, Mr. Hume, Colonel Dunne, Mr. Napier, and Mr. Hastie, sided with Lord Naas; Mr. Gibson, a member of a former select committee on the subject, and Sir George Clerk, sided with the government.

—Lord John RUSSELL, just before the division, threw in the remark that the simple question was, should the duty on Irish and Scotch spirits be lowered? He must say that the duties on spirits were not the kind of tax which *he* specially desired to reduce. On the division the numbers were equal—159 to 159; and the Speaker gave his casting vote, according to custom, in favour of the motion for going into committee. The preliminary motion having thus passed in the affirmative, the question that the Speaker should leave the chair was proposed.—Mr. ROEBUCK remarked upon the anomalous position of a ministry who retained their offices, though they had lost the reins of government. He advised Lord J. Russell, out of regard to his political character, to resign his functions, rather than continue to live in parliamentary minorities.—Lord J. RUSSELL declined to entrust his character to another man's keeping. Referring to various occasions when the administration had risked their official existence upon a division, and would have retired if left in a minority, he claimed their right to judge for themselves the fitting time, and the subject of sufficient importance on which a change of ministry ought to be staked upon a casual vote of the house. Of the four divisions that had gone against the government during the present session, the noble lord argued that not one involved a vote of want of confidence, or decided any point of consequence grave enough to justify a resignation.—The motion being then agreed to, the Speaker left the chair, and the house went into committee. A resolution, embodying the proposition of Lord Naas, was then put from the chair, and a division immediately called; but, after some confused discussion, it was agreed that the further discussion was to be postponed; and the chairman, therefore, reported progress, with leave to sit again.—Mr. E. ELLICE, after a detailed statement of the proceedings held before the *St. Alban's Election Committee*, of which he was chairman, moved for leave to bring in a bill for appointing commissioners to inquire into the existence of bribery in the borough. After a short discussion, leave was given to bring in the bill.

On Wednesday, May 7, on the motion for going into committee on *Mr. Locke's Railway Audit Bill*, Mr. LABOUCHERE stated that he should not offer any opposition to the committal of the bill, in order that its clauses might be considered; although he entertained little hope that an effective audit of railway accounts could be provided under the system adopted by the framers of the measure. He recognised the extreme importance of the subject, but exonerated himself from the responsibility of undertaking to legislate upon it by the overpowering influence of the railway interest within the house, against which he could not look for support from the apathetic public out of doors.—A discussion ensued, in the course of which Mr. Locke defended his bill, and Mr. Chaplin, who opposed it, moved that it should be committed that day six months. The house divided: for going into committee, 72; for the amendment, 49—23. The house then went into committee on the bill. The first clause, by which the principle of the measure was set forth, was opposed by Mr. B. Denison, who moved its excision, and divided the committee, when the clause passed by a majority of 81 to 60—21. The consideration of the subsequent clauses of the bill occupied the committee the rest of the sitting.

On Thursday, May 8, Mr. CAYLEY moved for leave to bring in a bill for the *Repeal of the Malt Tax*. The debate consisted chiefly of a repetition of the old arguments on both sides; and the motion was negatived by 258 to 122.—Mr. COWAN moved for leave to bring in a bill to regulate admission to the lay or secular chairs in the *Scottish Universities*.—Mr. E. Ellice and Mr. F. Maule supported the motion, which was opposed by Sir R. Inglis, upon the ground that it would overturn a wholesome system, and leave the youth of Scotland to be educated by professors of any religion or of none.—Lord J. Russell cordially approved of the bill; for which leave was given.

The nomination of the select committee on the relation of the *Caffre Tribes with this Country* gave rise to a warm discussion respecting the appointments of select committees in general. Col. Dunne, Mr. Reynolds, and Mr.

Keogh complained that Irish members were systematically excluded.—Mr. HOBHOUSE declared his opinion that the constitution of the house, as regards the appointment of committees, is the most unjust that has ever been recognised in any legislative assembly: he should bring the question before the house. "The whole system (he said) of appointing these committees is devised in order to blind the country. They are settled by a certain number of gentlemen on the ministerial as well as on the opposition side of the house, who, no doubt, compare lists; and we frequently find that some of the best, ablest, and most enlightened members of the house are excluded. Some hundred members are supposed to be ubiquitous, and appointed to almost all committees. One member is placed on a committee because he is connected with 'the leading journal of Europe.' We often find gentlemen, indeed, who have not yet displayed any particular talent or ability, or attained any position in the house, employed on economy committees; and then they were enabled to go down to their constituencies and say, 'See what I have done; I have been the means of reducing these salaries and abolishing these places,'—thus obtaining a popularity from which other members are excluded. I do not say those gentlemen are not men of great ability and talent, but they have not yet exhibited their talents to the house. We ought to adopt the French system of dividing ourselves into bureaux."—Mr. BRIGHT said that experience had led him to believe that nine out of ten committees were "shams." Ultimately the committee was nominated.

On Friday, May 9, in answer to questions from Mr. Urquhart respecting the *Evacuation of the Danubian Principalities, and the Detention of the Hungarian Refugees*, Lord PALMERSTON stated that the Russian troops had commenced the evacuation of Wallachia on the 17th April, and were expected to be entirely gone in a fortnight: that, to his sorrow, the endeavours of the governments of England and France to obtain the liberation of the remaining Hungarian refugees had as yet not been successful—the Turkish government had not at the date of the last advices determined on the release of the refugees: that the occupation of Rome by France was undertaken on her own discretion, and had not, he grieved to think, established good government; but the evacuation of Rome by France might lead to the entry of another power, and we had no right to restrict France in the full exercise of her own discretion as to when she shall retire from an occupation not intending any territorial acquisition. The internal condition of Rome and the Roman States was certainly such as must be painful to every well-wisher to the people of that country.

In answer to questions from Sir De L. Evans and Mr. T. Duncombe respecting the continued practice of *Interments in London*, Sir G. GREY stated that the Board of Health had endeavoured by private arrangement to obtain possession of some of the cemeteries established by companies, in which case the board would have been enabled to close the private burial-grounds most requiring interference, but that they had failed in making any private agreement of that kind. Notice had now been given to some of them, with the sanction of the treasury, with a view to having the value settled by arbitration, or by a jury. Meantime the board were in negotiation for the purchase of ground, and as soon as they should be in possession of it they would be prepared to close under the Act of Parliament those grounds which most required the exercise of the power to that effect. They were using the utmost diligence to accomplish the object in view. The act required an annual report to be made up to the 31st of December of the cemeteries closed and new burial-grounds opened, and other points; but nothing of the kind had been done, he believed, which could form the subject of report at the end of last year. He had, however, in consequence of the previous inquiry, requested the board to address to him a letter stating the measures they had taken in 1850, and when he received it it should be laid on the table.

The Chancellor of the EXCHEQUER announced his intention to introduce into the *Income-tax Bill* a clause giving to tenant-farmers the power of making appeal

to the commissioners when the assessment for the year was made on a larger sum than his profits amounted to, in order to meet the wishes generally expressed to that effect.—Col. SIBTHORP (who had given notice of an amendment to the same effect) called upon the house, amidst cheers and laughter, to joy over the repentant sinner.—Mr. DISRAELI thought his honourable and gallant friend deserved great credit for his ability and perseverance on this subject, and that the Chancellor of the Exchequer had also manifested great good sense and good feeling in acceding to the proposal.—After some conversation the clause was brought up and agreed to. The bill, as amended, was agreed to, and ordered to be read a third time on Monday.

On the motion that the *Ecclesiastical Titles Assumption Bill* be committed, Mr. URQUHART moved, as an amendment, the following resolution:—"That the act of the Pope, in dividing England into dioceses, and appointing bishops thereto, was encouraged by the conduct and declarations of her Majesty's government." The hon. member said he did not mean this as a vote of want of confidence in her Majesty's government, though the conduct they had pursued might well justify the house in expressing its censure on them; and he challenged them to show that they had not by their measures encouraged the Pope to take those steps of which the people of this country now complained. His object in making the motion was to get rid of this bill altogether, which must be regarded either as a nullity or a persecution—a nullity if it were not intended to be put in operation, or a persecution if it were. A debate of considerable length was followed by a division, whereby Mr. Urquhart's resolution was negatived by 280 to 201.

On Monday, the 12th, the discussion was renewed as to the mode of proceeding with the *Ecclesiastical Titles Bill*. Mr. MOORE raised a technical objection to the course adopted; contending that, as a bill relating to religious matters, it ought to have been founded on resolutions of a committee of the whole house.—The SPEAKER gave his opinion that the bill did not require this formality.—Mr. REYNOLDS moved an adjournment of the debate, which was negatived by 179 to 53.—Mr. LAWLESS then moved an adjournment of the house, and this motion was rejected by 145 to 36.—Mr. M. J. O'CONNELL then spoke in opposition to the bill on its general merits.—He was followed by Mr. KEOGH, who traversed again a considerable portion of the argumentative field which had been passed over at previous stages. Recurring to the point of the encouragement given by our government to the step of the holy see which they now call an insult, he stated a new fact which occurred under his own eye at Rome, where he happened to be when all this mischief occurred. He did not know whether Lord Palmerston was aware of the fact. When Cardinal Wiseman was created Archbishop of Westminster there was great rejoicing at Rome, and a general illumination. We have a consul there, and over the doors of his mansion are the British arms. That dwelling Mr. Keogh saw brilliantly illuminated in honour of the appointment. "A British subject, the British consul, the representative of the British government at Rome, illuminated his mansion in honour of the appointment of a Bishop of Westminster!" Was the see of Rome to be under the impression that nothing would be so distasteful to the British government as that appointment for which the British consul had illuminated his mansion? He would warn Lord John Russell, that by this bill he may arouse again in the people of Ireland, who are just emerging from the consequences of pestilence and famine, and perhaps just reaching the shore on a frail plank, the fanatical spirit of sectarian animosity, and may involve them again in another twenty years' struggle. If indeed that struggle should come, the result will be, as it was before, victorious to the people of Ireland; for never will they sheathe the sword until they deprive those who oppressed them of the power of oppression.—Lord John RUSSELL replied to Mr. Keogh; that gentleman had in strong language threatened the house with the anger which would be excited in Ireland if the bill passed; had threatened that it would be resented, and the sword never sheathed till they had got the better of their oppressors. "I am exceedingly sorry,"

said Lord John, "that members of this house, representing, no doubt, a feeling that exists in Ireland upon this subject, should consider this bill any violation of religious liberty; but I do not think we are bound on that account to part with a single particle of that authority which is inherent in the crown of England, or of that independence which is inherent in the people of the United Kingdom. I know not what might be the consequence if we were to give way to these notions—if we do not preserve that sovereignty and that independence." Lord John dealt with the legal arguments advanced by Mr. Keogh, and answered his imputation that the government is playing fast and loose, and will never enforce the bill as a law, by saying that if the law shall be infringed it would be the duty of the Crown to enforce its penalties. Mr. Keogh had on a former occasion expressed an honourable indignation at the supposition of any such persecution as was directed against the minister of Sardinia on account of the part which he took in the Sardinian Parliament: "he seems now to think that he has been misled with respect to the facts; let him be sure, that if those doctrines of the See of Rome—not the doctrines of the Roman Catholic religion, not the doctrines which have ever prevailed in France, but those political doctrines which Rome has endeavoured to extend over Europe, and which are totally different from anything belonging to the doctrines and opinions of Roman Catholics—let him depend upon it, that if such maxims were to prevail in this country, he, Roman Catholic as he is, would not enjoy half the freedom, half the power of expressing his opinion, half the liberty of coming forward in this house to argue in any cause which he thought it his duty to argue, that he now does under a Protestant constitution." Lord John concluded:—"I must again aver that this is a political measure, directed against a political encroachment; and that we will not suffer that the name of religious liberty should be prostituted for the purpose of covering foreign aggression."—Mr. BRIGHT retraced the history of the agitation from the Mansion House dinner downwards. After all the speeches made, however, whether in the house or out of it, there had been no clear definition of the wound said to have been inflicted on this country, or of the remedy which should be applied. The language of the Papal rescript was such as had been used by the Sec of Rome since the days of Hildebrand, and was rather of form than substance. The Pope had always ignored the existence of the Church of England, and necessarily so, taking the same view as the Church of England did of dissenting sects. He contended that the creation of bishops would really do much to relieve the Roman Catholics from that ultramontane influence of which so much had been said. He looked on the danger as purely imaginary, and the whole matter as one of sentiment. He proceeded to point out the evil effects of this bill, which he anticipated would be felt for years to come.—Mr. SOULLY moved the adjournment of the debate.—The house divided, for the adjournment, 54; against it, 365; majority against, 311.—Mr. O'FLAHERTY again moved the adjournment of the debate.—Lord John RUSSELL thought the house might have been allowed to get into committee on the bill, after the debates which had taken up so many nights; but rather than keep the house constantly dividing, he would assent to the adjournment.—The debate was then adjourned to Thursday.

On Tuesday, the 13th, the members did not assemble in numbers sufficient to form a house.

On Wednesday, the 14th, the "No House" of the preceding evening, when Mr. HUME's motion on the *Suffrage* was to have been brought forward, was noticed by Mr. CHRISTOPHER, who taunted the supporters of parliamentary reform and organic change with their want of zeal and sincerity, as evinced by the fact of only twenty-one members having been present at four o'clock on the previous day, and of these, six only Radical reformers.—Mr. HUME exculpated himself from any charge of inattention or neglect. He had been engaged all day on a committee, which broke up on being informed that the Speaker was at prayers; but the room in which they had been sitting was so remote that he could not reach the doors of the house in time to assist in making up the tale of members.—Mr. REYNOLDS was

ashamed to say that he had seen reformers hiding like political rats in holes and corners, in order to avoid making a house.—Sir G. GREY thought it manifest that the subject of parliamentary reform was not very attractive to the members of that house, otherwise more than twenty-one would have been found attending when the subject was to come under discussion.

Mr. LACY moved the second reading of *The Religious Houses Bill*. It was opposed by Sir George Grey who contended that the bill would be powerless to frustrate the exercise of spiritual control in such houses, whilst the hon. member had stated no instance of physical control which could establish a case for interference. It might be necessary to do something for the protection of the property of the inmates, in order to guard against its being disposed of under undue influence, as well as to take some power of supervision. But the bill of the hon. gentleman would be wholly inoperative for these objects. It was a bill to prevent the forcible detention of females in religious houses, an evil of the existence of which there was no proof, and which, for aught the house knew, might be wholly imaginary.—After a debate, in which the principal supporters of the bill were Mr. Newdegate, Mr. Spooner, and Mr. Freshfield, and its opponents were Lord Ashley, the Earl of Arundel and Surrey, Mr. Keogh, the Solicitor General, Mr. Sergeant Murphy, and Mr. Sidney Herbert, the bill was thrown out by a majority of 123 to 91.

On Thursday, the 15th, the adjourned debate on the *Ecclesiastical Titles Bill* was resumed, after the reception of a great number of hostile petitions, by Mr. SCULLY, who opposed the bill because it was not founded upon facts, and because, if it passed, it would endanger the morals and disturb the social condition of Ireland. He gave a representation, very different from that of the supporters of the bill, of the manner in which the Papal authority, in the matter of the hierarchy, was treated by other states; he denied that the act of the Pope was aimed at civil or constitutional liberty, or that it interfered with the Protestant church; he dwelt upon the disorders which the bill would produce amongst the Roman Catholic clergy of Ireland, and he denounced the policy of the measure as repugnant to the liberal principles of the age. There was no necessity for the measure, and the attempt to enforce it in Ireland would raise a storm that must provoke other measures of persecution.—Mr. Wegg-Prosser, Mr. Trelawney, and Mr. Howard, opposed the bill.—The LORD-ADVOCATE said, as this question had produced considerable interest in Scotland, and as the people in that country, though they had not made a strong demonstration, looked with great anxiety at the result of these deliberations, he desired to reflect to their opinion and express his own. The brand of discord had not been flung by the government of this country—a party which had fought the great battle of toleration; the Papal rescript altered the footing upon which the Roman Catholic Church had stood in this country for centuries, and that was the initiative. The rescript was a sufficient cause of some measure, because it was not so much an encroachment upon the Queen's supremacy (though there was enough of that to justify and even compel legislation), but it was the assertion of a spiritual dominion and supremacy, not only over Roman Catholics, but over the people of this country. The temporal supremacy of Rome was based on her spiritual supremacy over the community. The bill did not trench in the slightest degree upon the principle of toleration. There had been a public assertion of an absolute right on the part of the Pope to exercise spiritual jurisdiction in this land—a tentative step which could not be overlooked without giving encouragement in a quarter where a little encouragement was dangerous. This bill would not interfere with the proper exercise of the episcopal functions of Roman Catholic prelates.—Mr. Reynolds opposed the bill.—Mr. WHITESIDE, in a maiden speech, defended the bill, in which the Protestants of his country, he said, took a deep interest. The relations of this country and Ireland towards the Pope were at this moment of a peculiar and almost unprecedented nature. He had reminded the English people of the happy days they had enjoyed when James was upon the throne, and he had announced his determination to reunite England to the Romish church.

Describing the recent proceedings of the court of Rome towards Ireland, especially with reference to the colleges,—every step of which, he observed, required the attention of the house,—Mr. Whiteside accused the Pope of doing an unexampled act in the appointment of Archbishop Cullen, in order to acquire a domination over the Roman Catholics of Ireland, and to govern them according to his will, and that of the Propaganda. He then adverted to the next step, the assembling of the synod of Thurles—an extraordinary transaction, he said, and illegal throughout, for it was convened under the edict of the Pope, with the view of putting in circulation the Papal rescripts. In connexion with these proceedings, he charged Lord Clarendon with not upholding and enforcing the law, thereby offering encouragement to Papal encroachment; and he concluded with an animated reply to the speeches of Mr. Bright and Mr. Keogh.—Mr. LAWLESS moved the adjournment of the debate—a motion which was supported by Mr. MOORE.—Lord J. RUSSELL objected to the further adjournment of the debate, which was negative, upon a division, by 359 against 46.—Mr. R. M. Fox then moved the adjournment of the house, whereupon Lord J. Russell consented to the debate being adjourned until next day.

On Friday, the 16th, the debate was renewed, after a division on the question of the Speaker leaving the chair, which was carried by 116 to 35. The house having gone into committee, Mr. KEOGH moved that the usual course of postponing the preamble should be departed from, and that it should be considered before the clauses.—Mr. DISRAELI alluded to the statement made by the prime minister on a former evening, that the measures of the papal see formed part of a conspiracy against the liberties of Europe and the liberal influence of England, and that the government bill was a political measure directed against a political influence. If so, and he doubted not that the noble lord had well weighed the purport of his statement, the bill itself did not allude to the grievance it proposed to remedy. The first thing to have done would naturally have been to remove the arch-conspirator himself, but nothing of the kind was hinted at. The house might have laid down a principle adequate to deal with this question, by declaring the assumption of any title, civil or ecclesiastical, granted by a foreign prince, illegal. This would have shown the country that they were determined to baffle the conspirators; but ministers had called upon them to legislate without the slightest reference to the circumstances which called for legislation, and the measure proposed assumed the unhappy semblance of petty religious persecution. There were two classes of amendments; first, those which connected the measure with the circumstances which occasioned it, applying a political remedy to a political evil; and second, those which, in his view, would only aggravate the dangers and inconveniences of the petty legislation proposed. Under no circumstances would he consent to apply legislation on this subject to England which did not apply to Ireland. He should support those amendments which he considered effectual for the purpose of making the bill really a retaliatory act, but not those which would leave the bill in a really inefficient state.—Lord J. RUSSELL suggested that the house should now go into committee *pro forma*, for the purpose of amending the bill as he had explained on a former occasion, and also of inserting as a clause the words proposed to be added to the preamble by the member for Midhurst (Mr. Walpole). The bill would then be brought into the form determined on by government, and reprinted, so that the house might proceed with its consideration on Monday. He made this proposal on the understanding that no opposition should be offered on Monday to the Speaker leaving the chair.—Mr. WALPOLE approved of the course proposed, reserving to himself the right of moving the other amendments of which he had given notice.—Mr. KEOGH also acceded, announcing that he should renew his motion on Monday.—The bill then passed through committee *pro forma*, to be recommitted on Monday.

On Monday, May 19, the House went into committee on the *Ecclesiastical Titles Bill*. The question that the bill be read a first time having been put, Mr. REYNOLDS moved that the chairman should report

progress, contending that the committee had now an entirely new bill before them, and that time should be allowed to consider it.—Mr. ROEBUCK thought the request for further time far from unreasonable. They should also have some explanation from the first minister, or the law officers of the Crown, as to the great alterations that had been made in the measure.—Mr. GLADSTONE thought that the house had a right to expect from the law officers of the Crown their views of the scope and legal effect of the bill as it now stood. The circumstances that had attended its introduction and progress were, he believed, unexampled in parliamentary history. As it first stood, the measure was pronounced by government adequate, and no more than adequate, to a strong national feeling. After the house had consented to introduce the bill, by a majority of six to one, ministers thought proper fundamentally to change its character by withdrawing two out of its three clauses, thus leaving out its most stringent features. But now, a new set of provisions, of an entirely opposite tendency, heightening and enhancing its penal effect, and first suggested by those who professed this to be their object, had been inserted. No two of the legal gentlemen had agreed in their view of the measure, and he wished particularly to know the effect of the clause annulling and declaring illegal the *papal brief*. Mr. Gladstone then gave a masterly view of the original provisions of the bill, and the effect of the proposed changes, pointing out the anomaly of leaving wholly untouched the *papal brief* constituting a new see of Ross, in Ireland, and defining its jurisdiction, whilst professing to apply uniform legislation to England and Ireland. It appeared also, as the bill now stood, that although the *papal rescript* of 20th September was declared unlawful and void, yet if the Pope should think fit to reissue a rescript of exactly the same purport, it would be good to all intents and purposes, except as regarded the penal clause.—After a discussion in which Lord John Russell, Sir R. H. Inglis, Mr. P. Howard, Mr. Horsman, Mr. T. Duncombe, Mr. Roche, Mr. Keogh, Mr. Walpole, and others took part, the gallery was cleared, but no division took place, and the motion was negatived. The bill was then read a first and second time. The question that the preamble be postponed having been put, Mr. REYNOLDS again moved that the chairman report progress. The committee divided—for reporting progress, 46; against it, 262; majority against, 216.

Immediately after the division, the ATTORNEY-GENERAL rose to state the effect of the bill as it now stands. "The preamble, (he said) recites, that certain of the Queen's Roman Catholic subjects have, under colour of authority from a brief from Rome, assumed the titles of certain pretended sees, &c.; that by the 10th George IV, chapter 7, the assumption of the titles of existing sees is subjected to a penalty of 100*l.*; that it is doubtful if this enactment against assuming the titles of existing sees, &c., applies to the offence of assuming the titles of the pretended sees, &c.; that the attempt to establish such sees is, however, illegal and void; and that it is expedient to prohibit the assumption of such titles. The second clause [the first of the bill as it stood last week] then simply enacts that the assumption of the pretended titles shall be put on the same footing as the assumption of the real titles, and be punishable by a penalty of 100*l.* But it is said that the first clause, now introduced on the basis of Mr. Walpole's suggestion, makes the bill a new one. It does not do so; it merely declares that to be the law, which the preamble recites to be the law. The clause is superfluous; but as there is a strong feeling in favour of making a national declaration, in the form of a statutory enactment, that the assumption of these titles is illegal and void, and as the declaration can do no harm, the government accedes to the insertion of the clause in the bill. To the objection against the second clause that it will invalidate Roman Catholic gifts under the Charitable Bequests Act, the reply is, that the 10th George IV has not in practice done that against the real titles; therefore the extension of that enactment against the pretended titles will not do so against them."—Mr. REYNOLDS again moved that the Chairman should report progress.—Mr. Roebuck, the Earl of Arundel and Surrey, and Mr. P. Howard, remonstrated against a course that was merely obstruc-

tive; but Mr. REYNOLDS persevered, and took two divisions. On a motion to report progress, he was defeated by 271 to 30: on a motion to postpone the preamble, he was defeated by 258 to 45. The Earl of Arundel and Surrey now again asked for a respite; and Mr. Maurice O'Connell hoped that the lateness of the hour would suspend further progress; but Sir George Grey insisted on going on. After some further discussion, however, Sir G. Grey assented to an adjournment till Friday.

On Tuesday, May 20, Sir W. MOLESWORTH moved an address praying the discontinuance of *Transportation to Van Diemen's Land*. He detailed the substance of a great number of petitions from that Colony signed by all classes, in which the evils resulting from the continued influx of convicts were painted in the darkest colours, and contended that our Australian empire was in peril from the continuance of this practice.—Sir G. GREY admitted that the transportation system was productive of grievances, but contended that it was necessary, there being no other way of disposing of a large portion of our criminals. He maintained that a hasty adoption of the resolution before the house would impose on government greater difficulties and embarrassments than naturally attend the carrying of sentences of transportation into effect. The debate was put an end to by a "count out," it having been observed that there were only 33 members in the house.

On Thursday, May 22, Mr. EWART brought forward his motion respecting *Capital Punishments*, to the effect that it is expedient that the mitigations which have been made in the laws inflicting capital punishment in England, be extended to Scotland, and, if possible, to the colonies.—Mr. MAULE, in the absence of the Lord Advocate, replied for the government in respect of Scotland. There was no objection to the proposition; but the House of Commons had better not commit itself to vague resolutions.—For the colonies, Mr. HAWES observed that already the law was the same in eighteen colonies as in England; and in the rest, though the letter of the law might vary, the practice was very much the same as ours.—Sir George GREY added, that he had communicated with the late Lord Advocate about the law of Scotland; and he would communicate with the present Lord Advocate on that branch of the subject.—Mr. Ewart then withdrew his motion.

Mr. W. J. FOX moved a resolution that "it is expedient to promote the *Education of the People* in England and Wales by the establishment of free schools for secular instruction, to be supported by local rates, and managed by committees elected by the ratepayers." He adverted, in the outset, to the backwardness of education among the humbler classes in this country, to the advantages the state would derive from their instruction, and to their claims upon the legislature. It was, he observed, not an act of compassion, but a debt of justice to the national character itself, to furnish better means for universal instruction. Under the existing machinery for this purpose, voluntary contributions, with occasional aid from the public exchequer, not intentional partiality, but inevitable disparity, inseparable from religious and other difficulties, tended, he said, to check co-operation; and he enumerated other objections to the present system, and obstacles to its success which he considered insuperable. There was no economy in this imperfect system; we paid now as much as we need to pay for a complete system of national education. His plan proposed not only local taxation by an educational rate, but local administration, which would improve by means of competition, the modes of instruction, while it would preclude the evils which some anticipated as connected with the introduction of the new system. Secular and religious instruction must, he insisted, be separated, otherwise there could be no combination,—no plan whatever of general education. In urging this separation he proposed nothing new; high authorities supported his view, that religious teaching failed of its effect for want of due secular instruction.—Sir G. GREY assured Mr. Fox that while he must withhold his assent from the resolution, in the terms in which it was expressed, it was not from any unwillingness to extend the means of sound education among the great body of the people. He was not prepared to dispute the facts

which showed that there were great deficiencies in our educational system—deficiencies inherent in the system itself, and in the means available for making it effective and universal. There had, however, been not only a great increase of late years in the means of education, but an improvement in the qualifications of teachers and in the character of the instruction. Much, however, remained to be done; and he was not averse to the application of local rates to this purpose, seeing no real distinction between money raised by local rates and contributed from the general taxation of the country; great advantages might likewise result from local management, if means were provided for the inspection of the schools, to ascertain their efficiency. If the principle were recognised in the case of baths and washhouses, there could be no objection to the application of local rates to the still more important object of education. But there was a serious question—what was to be the character of the education? and he had the same insuperable objection to the terms of this resolution as to the principle of Mr. Fox's bill of last year, that in the schools established by local rates—which would supersede other schools—the education should be limited to secular instruction, and that religious instruction should altogether be excluded. Mr. Fox had argued that there was an aversion in the country to the union of religious with secular education; but he (Sir George) believed that the exclusion of all religion would be repugnant to the general opinion of the country, which regarded that as the best education which was founded upon principles deduced from the word of God.—After a debate, in which Mr. Fox's motion was supported by Mr. Hume, Colonel Thompson, Mr. Trevelyan, Mr. Adderley, and Mr. Cobden; and opposed by Mr. Hope, Mr. A. Patten, Mr. Wigram, the Solicitor-General, Sir R. Inglis, and Mr. S. Herbert, it was negatived by 139 to 49.

On Friday, May 23, Mr. REYNOLDS asked the first minister if he intended to bring in a bill to do away with *Minister's Money* in Ireland during the present session, agreeably to an announcement made to that effect some time ago?—Lord J. RUSSELL said so much of the public time had been taken up with the discussion of the ecclesiastical Titles Assumption Bill that it would be out of his power to bring in such a measure during the present session.

In committee on the *Ecclesiastical Titles Bill*, a motion made by Mr. Thomas DUNCOMBE, to postpone the first clause till the Papal brief or rescript which it refers to be put in evidence formally, in order that the house should not be legislating on the mere authority of what has appeared in newspapers, was supported by the mover in a clever and lively speech. It was opposed by the Solicitor-General, and negatived by 221 to 49. The question having been put that the clause be agreed to, Sir F. THESIGER moved as an amendment, instead of the words "a certain brief, rescript," to insert the words "all such briefs, rescripts," in order to include others besides the bull of the 29th of September. He thought this necessary to make the bill complete, consistent, and efficacious.—The SOLICITOR-GENERAL opposed the amendment, as weakening rather than strengthening the effect of the clause, as a protest against a particular outrage on national independence. There was no doubt as to the illegality of all Papal bulls. (Hear.)—After a long conversation, Sir F. Thesiger withdrew his amendment, reserving to himself the right of again proposing it on the report.—The Earl of ARUNDEL and STREY moved as an amendment to insert after the word "thereby," the words "save in so far as the exercise or use of such jurisdiction, authority, pre-eminence, or title, shall be necessary for spiritual purposes." His object was to prevent the enactment from trenching on purely spiritual ground, which the framers of the bill had declared not to be within their contemplation.—The ATTORNEY-GENERAL resisted the amendment as unnecessary, and calculated to throw doubt on the construction of the bill. After some discussion, the committee divided, and negatived the amendment by 316 to 61.—Mr. SADLER moved the insertion of the words "for all temporal purposes" after the word "thereby."—Sir G. GREY observed that this amendment was identical with that of which the house had just disposed. After another discussion the com-

mittee again divided, and negatived the amendment by 317 to 57.—Sir B. HALL suggested that the house should meet at twelve o'clock every day for the purpose of discussing this bill, in order that the country might be convinced that it was the determination of the government to press it earnestly.—Lord J. RUSSELL was not prepared to assent to this proposal immediately, as he feared that the effect might not be to enable them to make real progress, but he reserved to himself the power of adopting it if driven to it. The house then resumed, the chairman reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again on Monday.

On Monday the 26th, the consideration in committee of the Ecclesiastical Titles Bill having been resumed, Mr. McCULLAGH moved as an amendment the omission of two words in the first clause, by which the titles assumed under the papal rescript were declared simply "void," instead of being enacted "unlawful and void."—After discussion the committee divided, and the amendment was negatived by a majority of 179 to 43.—Mr. KEOGH moved the insertion after the word "void," of the words "in England," thereby exempting Ireland from the operation of the clause.—The amendment was opposed by Lord JOHN RUSSELL, and negatived by 39 against 84.—A further amendment was then proposed by Mr. KEOGH, by which it would be declared that nothing contained in the clause should prevent the free action of the catholic prelates in Ireland, as regarded their spiritual functions.—The amendment was opposed by the ATTORNEY-GENERAL, who contended that no interference would be exercised by the present bill with any spiritual functions of the catholic bishops, unless exercised under the prohibited titles.—A long discussion ensued, after which a division was called, and the amendment thrown out by a majority of 344 to 59.—The next amendment was proposed by Mr. SADLER, to the effect that no legal proceeding should take place under the act for anything done in pursuance of the practice in use anterior to the year 1850.—Being discussed and carried to a division, this was also negatived, by 278 to 47.

On Tuesday, May 27, Mr. H. BAILLIE moved a series of resolutions having reference to the late administration of Lord Torrington as Governor of Ceylon. These resolutions declared that the measures of repression and punishment adopted during the disturbances in the island, were excessive; that the severities had continued after the disturbances had ceased; that the long maintenance of martial law was in the highest degree arbitrary and oppressive; and that Lord Grey, in officially adopting and approving the policy of Lord Torrington, had acted in a precipitate and injudicious manner, calculated to establish precedents of rigour, and injurious to the national character for justice and humanity. Mr. Baillie entered into an elaborate detail of the circumstances attending the rebellion in Ceylon, and of the subsequent proceedings before the Committee of inquiry; and he accompanied his narrative with a criticism of the defence urged in another place by Lord Torrington, and contended that the charges he preferred had been sufficiently sustained.—Mr. SERJEANT MURPHY claimed for Lord Torrington the calm hearing appropriate to a tribunal whose functions were for the moment judicial. He complained that in laying their accusation the opponents of the noble lord had omitted to give him credit for those portions of his administration which had been eminently successful, or for the circumstances of difficulty with which he had found himself surrounded. The case rested upon testimony, and upon sifting the evidence of many of the witnesses most relied upon by the accusers, he contended that they turned out untrustworthy, and that some had given, on the spot, very different opinions to what they had professed before the committee. After suggesting the possibility that the very measures of rigour now complained of had in effect stopped the outbreak in an early stage, and thus apparently justified the charge that they were unnecessary, Mr. Murphy supported his suggestion by a differently-coloured history of the occurrences in Ceylon, which he based upon the authority of Colonel Drought, Colonel Fraser, and other credible witnesses. Considering the responsibilities assigned to our colonial governors, and the emergencies on which they might be

called upon to act while distant from advice or assistance from the home government, he deprecated the precedent that an adverse vote against Lord Torrington would establish, and which would tend to paralyse the energies of public servants trusted with the administration of most important dependencies in times of danger.—Mr. K. SEYMER attached blame both to Lord Torrington and the Colonial Secretary. He said that the so-called rebellion was a trumpety affair, magnified into importance by the severity with which it had been punished.—Earl GROSVENOR justified the policy pursued by Lord Torrington, on account of the exigency in which he found the colony placed.—Mr. ROEBUCK referred to the original terms on which we had obtained possession of Ceylon. It had not grown up under a process of civilised colonisation, but was a conquered dependency, won by the sword, and to be maintained, if necessary, by military strength. From such a beginning he argued that the test of good government was to be found in the peace and order preserved in the colony, rather than in the observance of any abstract theory of constitutional polity. This test being applied, the result showed that Lord Torrington had acted prudently and wisely. It was probable that the severity now charged against him as a crime had effectually stopped what would otherwise have proved a long and destructive struggle, and involved a far greater sacrifice of life than had arisen from the sternest application of the martial law proclaimed in Ceylon by its late governor.—Mr. HUME refused to accede to the doctrine that evil was to be pardoned if good came of it in the end. Even if we obtained a colony by conquest, our possession was accompanied by a moral obligation to govern our new subjects in a constitutional and Christian manner. He denied the existence of any rebellion, and attributed the discontent which was manifested among the natives to the pressure of the numerous new taxes imposed by Lord Torrington. After dwelling upon the flagrant case established against Lord Torrington, he inquired, if such an instance as now appeared before them were allowed with impunity, what limit it would be possible to set in future, to the arbitrary tendencies of colonial governors? The debate was adjourned.

PROGRESS OF BUSINESS.

House of Lords.—May 8th. Administration of Criminal Justice Bill, Prevention of Offences Bill, and Regulation of Assurances Bill, referred to Select Committee.

9th.—Transportation to Van Diemen's Land.—Petitions presented by Lord Lyttelton.

12th.—Church Buildings Act Amendment Bill referred to a Select Committee.

13th.—Marriages (India) Bill read a second time.

19th.—Income Tax Bill read a second time.

20th.—Income Tax Bill passed through Committee.

22nd.—Episcopal and Capitular Estates Bill read a second time.

House of Commons.—April 28th. Income Tax Bill read a second time.—Stamp Duties Assimilation and Exchequer Bills Bill read a third time and passed.

29th.—Leave given to bring in the Government Water supply of London Bill.

30th.—St. Alban's election witnesses; address to the Queen for a proclamation offering reward for their apprehension.—Farm Building Bill read a second time.

May 1st.—London Water Bill read a first time.—Oath of Abjuration (Jews) Bill read a second time.—Civil Bills (Ireland) Bill read a second time, and referred to a Select Committee.

2nd.—Income Tax; Mr. Hume's motion, limiting it to one year, carried against Ministry.

5th.—Income Tax Bill considered in Committee.—Official Salaries; Lord John Russell's explanations.—County Courts Bill brought from the Lords, and read a first time.

6th.—Mr. Grantley Berkeley's motion for Equalised Poor Rate withdrawn.—Spirits in Bond; Lord Naas's motion carried against ministers by Speaker's casting vote.—Leave given Mr. Elliot to bring in a Bill for a Commission on Bribery at St. Alban's.—Process and Practice (Ireland) Bill passed through Committee.

7th.—Audit of Railway Accounts Bill considered in Committee.—Message from the Queen, announcing proclamation of a reward for arresting St. Alban's election witnesses.

8th.—Mr. Cayley's motion for leave to bring in a Bill for repeal of the Malt Tax negatived.—Income Tax; Mr. Hume's Select Committee.—Caffre War; Select Committee named.—Compound Householders' Bill read a third time, and passed.

9th.—Income Tax Bill considered in Committee.—Ecclesiastical Titles' Bill; Mr. Urquhart's motion negatived.

12th.—Ecclesiastical Titles' Bill; adjourned debate on question of going into Committee.—Property Tax Bill read a third time and passed.—Woods and Forests; leave to bring in a Bill given to Lord Seymour.

13th.—No house.

14th.—Landlord and Tenant Bill read a second time.—Religious Houses' Bill; second reading negatived by 123 to 91.

15th.—Ecclesiastical Titles Bill; debate again adjourned.

16th.—Ecclesiastical Titles Bill in Committee; Bill to be reprinted for discussion.

19th.—Ecclesiastical Titles Bill; debate and Committee adjourned to Friday.—Appointment to Offices Bill passed through Committee.

20th.—Sir W. Molesworth's motion for an address against transportation stopped by a count out.

22nd.—Capital punishments; Mr. Ewart's motion debated, and withdrawn.—Education; Mr. Fox's motion negatived.—Hodgkies; Mr. Hodges's motion negatived.

23rd.—Ministers' Money in Ireland Government Bill abandoned.

24th.—Ecclesiastical Titles' Bill considered in Committee.—Arsenic Regulation Bill read a third time, and passed.

26th.—Ecclesiastical Titles' Bill in Committee.

27th.—Mr. Baillie's motion respecting Lord Torrington's government of Ceylon; debate adjourned.

The great *Aggregate Meeting of the Roman Catholics of Ireland*, intended as a demonstration against the Ecclesiastical Titles Bill, was held in the Rotunda at Dublin, on the 29th ult. The Hon. Charles Preston, son of Lord Gormanstown took the chair. The Mayors of Cork, Limerick, Kilkenny, Drogheda, and Clonmel, were present, and every part of the building was crowded. The following was the principal resolution, which was unanimously adopted: "That we call upon our representatives in parliament and our countrymen in general, not only to oppose by every constitutional means the bill itself, but also to give an active opposition to any administration which proposes or supports that or any similar measure."

The *National Association for the Protection of Industry and Capital throughout the British Empire* held its second anniversary meeting on the 29th ult. in Drury Lane Theatre. The theatre was unable to contain the crowd that desired admittance; so, while the principal proceedings were conducted there by the Duke of Richmond, a supplementary meeting was drafted off to St. Martin's Hall. The body of the audience, at both meetings, consisted mainly of agriculturists, who had been brought up to town in special trains engaged by the committee of management; the counties sent a large number of delegates; and in addition the farmers flocked to town to have the satisfaction to hear their distressed condition enlarged upon. At the principal meeting, the Earl of Winchelsea moved the first resolution; and he was followed by Mr. Isaac Butt, Mr. Dawson of Selby, Mr. R. P. Long of Wiltshire, Mr. George Game Day of St. Ives, Mr. Worsley of Essex, Colonel Kinloch from Scotland, and Lord Berners. Mr. Reid, a baker of London, put forward by the Duke of Richmond as a Protectionist pursuing another profession than agriculture, told the meeting that the working classes view the whole movement with great distrust, "because in former times, when the landowners had the power, they forgot the labourer; the labourer fears that if the landowner gets the power again to-morrow, when his turn is served he will forget the labourer again:" he advised them to guard against encouraging that spirit among the labourers in their future proceedings. The Duke of Richmond wound up the proceedings with a speech congratulating his party on the evidence of progress which their demonstration afforded; and with short election advice to turn out all lukewarm representatives, and put this pledge alone, "Will you support Lord Stanley?" If any man say, "I don't know," let him then be told, "You are not the man for us." At the smaller meeting, the speakers were the Earl Stanhope, Mr. George Frederick Young, Mr. Ball of Cambridge, Captain Vyse, M.P., Mr. Elman, and some other speakers from the provinces. Mr. Elman, a noted rural Protectionist, promised his hearers, that at the next election as many men will be returned to support Lord Stanley and Mr. Disraeli as were returned in 1841 to support Sir Robert Peel. After the meetings, there was a Protectionist dinner at the Freemasons' Tavern, over which Mr. George Frederick Young presided.

The speaking was enlivened by Colonel Sibthorp's denunciations of that confounded building called the Crystal Palace, which is doomed to fall to rise no more; and of the robbing and ravishing foreigners, for whom alone it has been erected.

A letter published by the Roman Catholic journal, the *Tablet*, and said to have been addressed by the Earl of Clarendon to the Earl of Shrewsbury, when the latter nobleman was at Rome in December last, has been reprinted in the principal newspapers, and is regarded as genuine. It appears to form part of a correspondence arising out of the Earl of Shrewsbury's conferences with the Pope. The following are among its most remarkable passages:—

“DUBLIN, Dec. 2nd, 1850.

“My dear Lord,—I am sincerely obliged to you for your letters of November the 12th and 15th, and I know not whether most to admire your accurate knowledge of all the affairs of Ireland, or the eminent tact and judgment you have displayed in the conferences with the Holy Father and the Cardinals, of which you have the goodness to send me so complete and so interesting a report. I take the liberty of making some observations on what was said in those conferences, and I hope that you will permit me to express them with all frankness, because I cannot write about the ignorance, or something worse, which prevails in Rome regarding this country, without candidly declaring my judgment as to its causes, and the deplorable consequences which must attend it. The Pope has shown the extent of the deceit which has been practised upon him. All good men in Ireland, of whatever creed or politics, are agreed in reverencing Dr. Murray as the *beau idéal* of a Christian pastor; and yet your Lordship found his Holiness irritated against him alone. All agree in considering Dr. M'Hale as an ill-disposed demagogue, who does nothing but afford an example of all that a bishop ought not to do; and yet, when your Lordship blamed him, you were told that you had a strange animosity against the Irish.”

I may be permitted to ask what we ought to think of the government of the Pope, who, in violation of the rules for the nomination of bishops, sent here a man like Dr. Cullen, whose only object has been to destroy the colleges established by the legislature and maintained by the state, and to extinguish the national schools, in which 500,000 of the poorest classes are educated, without an attempt to provide for the deficiency of establishments of these two kinds, and thus leave the middle and poorest class in brutal ignorance, without troubling himself about the consequences that would follow? Dr. Cullen, moreover, published a synodical address, in which he did not stop at condemning the colleges, but sought to set class against class, and to represent every poor man as a martyr and every rich man as a tyrant. There is more rank communism in that address than could be chemically distilled from M. De Véricour's whole book. It cannot be alleged that all this opposition arises from religious zeal; because, at this moment, Dr. M'Hale and others would induce the students to leave the colleges where their faith and morals are protected, and to go to Trinity College in Dublin, a place eminently Protestant, where there are no guarantees for faith, and where there is every temptation to apostasy. Mr. Lucas, editor of the *Tablet*,—one of the most virulent and most offensive newspapers in Europe—is in constant communication with Dr. Cullen, and is moreover the chief instigator, as his paper is the organ, of the Tenant League, the object of which is to abolish the rights of property, and to shake to its very foundation everything on which society depends. He is ably assisted in this work of regeneration by the priests, who, with this end in view, have fraternised with the Presbyterian clergy. But not a word of counsel or reprimand has been uttered by the Primate; on the contrary, his journal applauds, and the editor acts in the League with Mr. Duffy of the *Nation*, who would have been at this hour a deported felon if one of the jury had not perjured himself. It is very true that the Pope ordered the clergy not to meddle in politics. This he did in 1847, in the same rescript in which he condemned the colleges. The second part was received with reverence, as hostile to the government; and the first was obeyed by the clergy rushing headlong into the revolutionary movement of 1848, when nothing saved them, except their belief in the impartiality of the government; in which they were quite right, because, if the legal evidence of their guilt had been as strong as its moral certainty, several of them would have now been along with their friends in exile in Van Diemen's Land.”

The *Harwich Election Committee* have decided that the election was altogether void, and a new writ for the borough has been ordered.

At Aylesbury, Mr. Ferrard has been entertained by the *Protectionist Electors* who adhere to his peculiar views. His speech was characteristic; towards its close he exclaimed,—“Who fears a rebellion? God would defend the right. Let the free-traders hoist their standard of rebellion tomorrow, the spirit of England would destroy them in a month. Bright would be hanged at Manchester, Cobden at Leeds, and Sir James

Graham at Carlisle. A new reform bill is talked of: he warned the government that the revolution which sweeps away the Protectionists would sweep the Duke of Bedford out of Woburn Abbey; would, in all probability, sweep the crown from her Majesty's head; and would, if he were not cautious, sweep Lord John Russell's head from his shoulders.”

In a *Convocation* holden at Oxford on the 21st, it was resolved, by 249 to 105, to affix the university seal to a petition praying the Queen to revoke the university commission, or to allow the university to be heard against that commission by counsel.

NARRATIVE OF LAW AND CRIME.

A DECISION of the Exchequer Chamber has settled a point of law respecting the *Reception of Evidence*. A person named Hill, an attendant in one of the London lunatic asylums, was lately convicted of causing the death of a pauper by violent treatment. The conviction had depended on the evidence of a pauper lunatic, subject to insane delusions as to spirits; who affirmed even at the trial that the spirits were then trying to make him think that the violence he witnessed had happened on another day than the correct one; but who in other respects was highly intelligent and moral, and gave to the judge an excellent explanation of the moral obligation of an oath. It had been objected at the trial, that a person *non compos mentis* is never admissible as a witness: but Justice Coleridge had admitted the evidence, and reserved the point for grave argument before the Exchequer Chamber. That court now held that Mr. Justice Coleridge was right: the rule being, that the admissibility of the evidence rests with the judge, and then the effect and weight of the evidence rests with the jury. The wisest of men (it was observed) have been subject to delusions; Socrates believed that a demon haunted him; Martin Luther, that he had been in actual conflict with the devil; Dr. Johnson, that he had heard his mother call him after her death. It would be impossible to reject testimony solely on the ground that the witness had delusions unconnected with the subject-matter of his evidence at the trial. The conviction was affirmed.

It is stated that an arrangement has been made between the parties to the suit of *Metairie v. Wiseman* and others, concerning the property bequeathed by the late M. Carré to the Roman Catholic priest Holdstock. By the arrangement the principal portion of M. Carré's property goes to his next of kin, instead of to the Romish Church.

At Hyde Petty Sessions, Mr. Brown, minister of the Wesleyan Chapel in Nelson Street, and his wife, were fined 5*l.* each, for *Inhumanly Treating* a poor serving-maid in their employ, aged fourteen. The parties had great difficulty in evading the fury of a large mob, who made an attack on the house in which they lived; and they were only saved from severe maltreatment by the presence of a numerous body of the police.

A poor *Polish Refugee* appeared at the Marlborough Street Police Office on the 30th, representing his frightful state of destitution and begging relief. He said he had taken refuge in France, with a passport *visé* for Lyons, about a fortnight ago. As soon as he reached Lyons he was placed in the custody of a gendarme, taken to Boulogne, and from thence compelled to go to England. The magistrate sent a message on the subject of the man's case to the Polish Society; and the secretary, who immediately made his appearance, said that this was an exceedingly common case. For some time past it had been the open practice of the French authorities to clear their country of idle, profligate, or criminal foreigners by sending them to England. He believed that not fewer than 800 doubtful characters had been, within a limited period, sent to this country. This practice would account for the appearance of the applicant here, who, though with a passport to Lyons, was compelled when he got to that city to leave it and to embark at Boulogne for England. The French government had doubtless found out that the applicant was without visible means of subsistence, and had, in

the customary way, provided means for getting him out of France into England. The secretary added, that the practice of sending foreigners to England was not confined to France. The Society had ascertained that Polish refugees had been sent from Hamburg and from Switzerland here under the same circumstances. The magistrate said it was a monstrous system to convert England into the Botany Bay of foreign countries; and that something ought to be done to stop a system that added materially to the load of pauperism and crime already imposed upon England. If he relieved the applicant, it would only be encouraging others to come to the court, and no real good would be done, as the applicant could not expect to get employment here, when every department of industry was overcrowded. If the applicant was allowed to continue in a state of starvation, he might be driven to crime, and thus a magistrate hardly knew what to do under such circumstances. Some trifling temporary relief was given to the applicant, and he was dismissed.

Mr. Coulter, an extensive farmer, agent, and middleman in the county of Louth, was *Murdered* on the 2d instant near Dundalk. He had left his house in the morning to attend a neighbouring fair, and was soon afterwards found lying insensible on a stone dike at the road side. He appeared to be leaning across the stones with his head to the field and his feet towards the road, as if he had been apparently dragged into that position. It would appear that the first attack was made about thirty yards from this spot. The road between both places was sprinkled with blood, and in such a manner as if the person from whom it had come staggered along. A struggle appeared to have taken place on the scene of the first attack, and it would seem that Mr. Coulter made an attempt to return home, but that he was overpowered in the place where he was found. On examining the back of the hedge near this spot, traces were discovered as if two persons had been secreted there. Where he lay, the stones, some of which had rolled into the field, were quite covered with blood, and upon one of them there was some hair. A brass pistol and an old bayonet were found here, the one broken in the stock, as if it had been used in striking the victim; the other was covered with blood. On Mr. Coulter's being discovered his head presented a dreadful appearance; on one side it was bruised in and yielded to the slightest pressure, while all over it was covered with deep wounds. Several of the wounds were evidently inflicted by a bayonet, and one of the ears was nearly torn away. He was not dead, but only survived till the following day. His money was not touched. He was agent to some property in the neighbourhood, and had lately served several of the tenantry with notices to quit.

Eight Irishmen, labourers at the Vauxhall Gas works, were charged at the Lambeth Police Court, on the 5th and 7th, with the *Murder* of Henry Chaplin, a Police-constable. Police-constable Newton stated, that at one o'clock on Monday morning, he found the prisoners making a great disturbance in Vauxhall Walk, and Chaplin trying to get them home. As they continued disorderly, Chaplin threatened to lock some of them up. Five or six of them then went away, but presently returned armed with sharp metallic clinker-stones, which they had taken from the border of a neighbouring garden. One of them, John Heckey, threw his clinker at Chaplin, and struck him on the mouth: Chaplin staggered, but recovered himself, and struck Heckey with his staff. Patrick Cane and the others then rushed in, and shortly laid Chaplin on the ground insensible, from blows on the head inflicted with the heavy and sharp clinkers. He died shortly afterwards, in Guy's Hospital. Newton grappled with some of the men, but they knocked him down, and all escaped for the time. When arrested at their several places of resort, Heckey and Cane were still bleeding from wounds given by the staves of the constables. Mr. Rhys, surgeon of the Hospital, proved that Chaplin died from the wounds which Newton saw inflicted by Cane and others. The prisoners were remanded for examination of further witnesses.

At the Marlborough Street Police Court, on the 12th, Captain Paulet Henry Somerset, of the Coldstream Guards, was charged with *Assaulting Police-constable*

Griffin, one of the officers stationed on the approaches to the Great Exhibition. Orders had been issued that no carriages should go up the carriage-road from Kensington Gate to the building, but should proceed along Rotten Row. Captain Somerset drove a phaeton up the prohibited road at a rapid pace; Griffin signalled him with his hands to go back, but he continued his progress. The policeman, as he approached, called out to him that he must go up Rotten Row, but Captain Somerset only whipped his horses forward; the policeman then caught hold of the reins; Captain Somerset whipped him over the head and shoulders, and then put his horses to the gallop, until he was stopped by a mounted patrol. Four lashes that fell upon Griffin's face drew blood slightly. In his defence before the magistrate, Captain Somerset pleaded that he did not know the nature of the orders issued to the police. He had driven along the same road the day before without interruption, and he was not aware that he could not do so that day. He denied that his horses were going faster than at a trot. The constable seized the reins, and nearly threw one of his horses, a young horse, on its haunches. Fearing the horse would kick, he desired the constable to let go. The constable would not, and he lost his temper and struck him. He considered he had not met with that courtesy from the police which a gentleman was entitled to expect. Mr. Hardwick, the magistrate, addressed the defendant:—"It matters very little whether the warning given by the police-constable at Kensington Gate was seen or not; two other constables signalled you, and then, whether gentleman or coachman, it was your duty to pull up at the instant. Instead of doing this, you drove on furiously, and paid no attention to the constables." Defendant—"I should have stopped if treated with proper civility." Mr. Hardwick—"If officers exceed their duty, there is an easy remedy by complaint to the commissioners, or to a magistrate. I am surprised that an officer in her Majesty's service should not have set a better example of obedience to those in authority. Constables must be protected in their duty, and examples must be made of all persons who obstruct or injure them when so doing. You will go to the House of Correction for ten days." Defendant—"House of Correction! pray allow me to pay a fine. I trust you will consider your decision over again; such a sentence will probably oblige me to leave my regiment. I will pay any fine you may inflict." Mr. Hardwick—"No; I decline to make any alteration in the sentence. The law knows no distinction of persons, and there are no circumstances of mitigation in your case, as you, from your position, ought to have set an example of obedience to those in authority." Captain Somerset was then removed to the lock-up cells.

The Great Western steamer, one of the royal West India Mail Company's ships, brought to Southampton a large amount of *Gold-dust from California*, consigned to the Bank of England. On the 16th inst., 157 boxes were unshipped, and packed upon four trucks to be conveyed to London: the average weight of the boxes was nearly half a hundredweight. When the train arrived at Nine Elms early next morning, it was found that three boxes were missing from one of the trucks. The same afternoon, a boy, the son of a publican living near the Winchester station, while searching for bird's-nests on the railway bank, found one of the missing boxes: it had not been opened. A watch was set at the spot; and at half-past eleven o'clock at night a man came to the place. He was arrested. When taken before the mayor and magistrates of Winchester, he said his name was William Plankin, and that he was a tailor of Earl Street, Soho: which was subsequently found to be true. He accounted for his presence at Winchester, and for his going to the bank, in a way by no means satisfactory; and he was remanded. A reward of 250*l.* has been offered for the apprehension of the thieves and the recovery of the other two boxes of gold: one weighed fifty-three pounds, and the other forty pounds. The value of the three was 7000*l.*

An important question of *Copyright* was decided by the Exchequer Chamber on the 13th. The circumstances were these:—The opera "La Sonnambula" was composed by Bellini, at Milan, in February 1831; Bellini was an alien, resident at Milan; when the

work was complete it was legally assigned to Ricordi, also an alien. Ricordi came to England, and assigned to Boosey, the plaintiff, who is an Englishman born, the copyright of the opera "for and in Great Britain." Boosey published the opera on the 10th June, 1831; and there had been no prior publication either in this country or abroad. The defendant, Purday, pirated "A Cavatina from the opera of 'La Sonnambula' by Bellini," thus published; and the plaintiff brought his action. On the authority of a previous case between the same parties, Baron Rolfe, now Lord Cranworth, directed the jury to find a verdict for the defendant; a bill of exceptions was tendered; and the matter was brought into this court of error. Lord Campbell delivered the judgment of the court, establishing the right of an alien author to acquire a British copyright, by first publishing his works in this country. The court were of opinion that Baron Rolfe's direction was wrong, and that he ought to have directed the jury to find a verdict for the plaintiff.

A man named William Day was tried on the 14th at the Central Criminal Court, under the Bishop of Oxford's act for the *Protection of Females*. Harriet Newman, a girl under twenty-one years of age, told the tale of the prosecution to this effect. She was induced to go to a certain street by receiving letters purporting to come from one Roberts, her sweetheart; there she was met by Day, who said Roberts had sent him; Day forced her into a cab, and rendered her insensible by holding a handkerchief over her mouth and nostrils; and when she recovered she was in a strange house. She defended herself from the attempts of some "gentlemen" with a knife given to her by a woman; and eventually was put out of the house into a cab, and deposited on some door-steps, where the police found her bloody and almost insensible, with a paper label in her hand inscribed with her direction. This extraordinary narrative was corroborated in several particulars. The defence was an alibi, which broke down. Verdict, "Guilty;" sentence, imprisonment for twelve months.

At the Central Criminal Court, on the 15th, F. Judd, a youth of 18, was indicted for the *Wilful Murder of his Father*. The prisoner and his father lodged together at a house in Garden Street, Westminster, and on the morning of the 12th of April the persons living in the room underneath, heard the sounds of a scuffle and of some person moaning, and shortly afterwards the prisoner came down stairs and left the house. After he had gone the father also came down, and it was observed that his face was covered with blood, and that he had received some very severe injuries. He was taken to the hospital, where it was found that his skull was fractured, the bones of his nose broken, and also his under jaw, and it was the opinion of the surgeon that these injuries had been inflicted by a poker which was found in the deceased's room. The old man lingered for about a fortnight and then died, the death being the result of the injuries he had received. The prisoner went away for two or three days, and he then gave himself up, and when he was informed that he was charged with cutting and wounding his father, the deceased being at the time alive, he said that his father had brought it all upon himself; and when he was under examination before the magistrate he made a statement to the effect that it was an accidental occurrence. Several witnesses were called, who gave the prisoner the character of a humane, mild, and inoffensive lad. He was found guilty of manslaughter, and sentenced to be transported for life.

A *Shocking Murder* had been perpetrated at the small village of Marsland-green, a few miles from Manchester. George Green, an elderly day-labourer, had been to the Salford cattle-market, where he had sold some calves, and was returning home in company with a man named Mafoy in the cart of the latter. Near Marsland-green Green left Mafoy, and went to the house of his son-in-law, Jacob Thomason. Thence, after smoking a pipe, he proceeded to the village alehouse, but found it closed: this was about ten o'clock. From this place he walked up a lane leading to Morley Hall, passing through swampy ground and a willow copse. At about 100 yards up this lane, and close to a marl pit, the murder appears to have been committed. An inquest was held on the

body at Bedford, near Leigh, on the 17th, when several persons were examined, who gave in evidence the principal facts connected with the case. An adjourned inquest has since been held without producing additional evidence to criminate any one.

Erratum.—In last number (p. 87), it was stated that George Carnt was tried for the murder of Elizabeth Bainbridge, and Maria Clark for the murder of her infant, at the Gloucester assizes, instead of the Suffolk assizes.

NARRATIVE OF ACCIDENT AND DISASTER.

A DREADFUL *Railway Accident* took place on the Lancashire and Cheshire junction line, on the evening of the 30th. Three very long and crowded trains left Chester in the evening for Manchester, and the locomotive power of the first train being insufficient for the weight behind, it came to a stand-still in the long tunnel between Frodsham and Sutton—a tunnel about a mile and a half in length. A second train ran into them soon afterwards, but was fortunately going at so slow a pace, that but a few persons were hurt by the collision. The third train then came up, and ran into the second train at a fearful speed, smashing the carriages, and killing and injuring a number of persons. Six were killed on the spot, or died soon afterwards. They were—Mrs. Withnall, of Bolton, a widow lady, sister of Mrs. Ridgway, of that town; H. Anderson, of Manchester, a paper-hanger and decorator; Jewell, a boy from Whittay, in Cheshire; a man dressed as a dyer, supposed to be a resident of Ardwick, near Manchester; a person not identified; and J. Davidson, a buyer-in for Messrs. Bannermans of Manchester. He was not dead when found, but he expired two days afterwards, at his own residence, Cheetwood, near Manchester. It appeared that there were not less than 1500 persons in the three trains, which started from the Chester station at intervals of not above fifteen minutes from each other; that the first train came to a stand from want of locomotive power in consequence of an insufficient supply of water; and that no signal-men were stationed at the entrance of the tunnel. A coroner's inquest was held on the bodies of the sufferers, and attended by Captain Laffan, Royal Engineers, the government inspector of railways, who took an active share in the proceedings. After an investigation of seven days, the jury gave a verdict of "accidental death," accompanied by the following severe censure: "Although the jury have not felt justified in recording any other verdict than that of accidental death, they feel bound to state that they are unanimously of opinion that great blame attaches to the executive committee of the Birkenhead, Lancashire, and Cheshire Junction Railway Company; and that there was a want of prudence and discretion generally in the conduct of the officers and servants of the company along the line from Chester to Manchester on the day when the melancholy occurrence took place, which resulted in the death of the parties (on Wednesday 30th April) as to which the jury have been inquiring. With respect to the locomotive power of the company, it appears that no increase whatever was made for the greatly increased traffic along the line from Chester to Manchester during the Chester race-week; and that there was no authorised superintendent of the engineering department along that line appointed, and no precautionary arrangements adopted for the safety of the public in reference to the Sutton tunnel, where the collision took place on the day above mentioned. The jury find, that throughout the day there was the greatest irregularity in the despatch and the arrival of the trains from Manchester to Chester; and the advertisement issued by the company, to the effect that the trains would return from Chester at 5.30 p.m., and continue running, so soon as filled up, to 9 o'clock p.m., was in the highest degree objectionable, being calculated to lead to confusion and danger. The Railway Company's superintendent himself has stated, in the course of his evidence, that he does not consider the stock of locomotives sufficient for their ordinary traffic; and yet, as the jury have already noticed, no increase was made for the greatly increased traffic

during the Chester races; and to this deficiency of locomotive power is to be mainly attributed the lamentable catastrophe that has happened. The jury are decidedly of opinion that the management of the railway in question is defective and inefficient, thereby endangering the safety of the public. In conclusion, the jury recommend, that in order to guard against the recurrence of a similar accident, there should be an authorised servant of the company stationed at each end of the Sutton tunnel, so as to signal the trains, and thereby prevent two trains being in the tunnel on the same line at one time. They consider also, that the carriages of the railway company having to pass through a tunnel of such a length as the Sutton tunnel, should be furnished with lights; and they desire also to call attention to the shortness of the intervals allowed for the trains following each other on the same line from the terminus and intermediate stations, which appears to them to be attended with risk; and to express their opinion that the intervals should therefore be increased."

At two o'clock in the morning of the 2nd, a *Fire* broke out in the house of Mr. Elliott, a provision agent, in Red Lion Street, Walworth. The family had retired to rest, excepting the eldest son, Henry Elliott, aged seventeen, who reached home at one o'clock from the theatre. The house at that time seemed quite safe, and he went upstairs to bed; but soon afterwards he was aroused by a suffocating smoke entering his sleeping apartment. He jumped out of bed, and when he opened the room door the flames and smoke were rushing up the staircase. He went to the back room and succeeded in waking his parents and the other members of the family. The father rescued his wife and two children, but discovered the young man himself, who had given the alarm, lying insensible on the first floor. He was found to be quite dead; and, as the body was not much burnt, it appeared that he had been suffocated.

On the morning of Saturday, the 17th, a *Building Fell Down* in Gracechurch Street, killing or wounding many persons. For some months past, Messrs. Bell and Corbett had been erecting on the site of the Old Cross Keys a very extensive building intended for chambers and offices. It was four stories high, and reached the whole length of Allhallows Church Passage; it was to be "fire-proof," and the floors were made of iron girders; the spaces being filled in with concrete. Such progress had been made that the roof was soon to have been commenced. On the above morning, the usual number of workmen, from seventy to eighty, were employed; a little before eleven o'clock, a snap was heard, the centre of the structure sank into a ruin, and drew with it the southern walls. Some of the workmen escaped on to the roof of Allhallows Church, others on to adjoining houses; six Irishmen slid down the gable end of the building by means of the bits of iron stays projecting from the wall; one leaped into the street through a window thirty feet high, and was saved harmless by alighting on a heap of sand; but a great many were buried under the falling masses. The labourers who had escaped, the Police, and the passengers, immediately attempted the recovery of those in the ruins; and in a little time between twenty and thirty were got out. The search was then stopped, from fear that the rest of the building would fall; and it was not till the evening that the search could be renewed. It would have been stopped again at dusk, but the Great Central Gas Company promptly laid down pipes and lighted the ruins with fifty or sixty burners. Soon after midnight a corpse was found, and at a subsequent period two others were recovered. Of those removed to the hospital two died in a short time. At the inquest on the bodies the evidence was concurrent as to the sufficiency of the building, but it appeared that the accident arose from the breaking of one of the iron girders, and a verdict to that effect was returned.

Early on Sunday morning, the 18th, a *Fire* broke out in Love Lane, Lower Thames Street, in the Rose and Crown Tavern, a very ancient structure, said to have escaped the Great Fire of London. A policeman alarmed the inmates, who were asleep. In the mean time, the lower part of the house became a mass of fire. A man appeared at the third-floor window, and called for a ladder; but he then disappeared. Screams were

heard by the neighbours. Elizabeth Chambers, a servant, leaped from a back window; she fell upon the skylight of the kitchen of the White Hart Tavern in Botolph Lane, and was so seriously hurt that she could not move, while the flames played round her. At length two men managed to drag her through a window, and she was conveyed to the hospital. The firemen could do nothing to save the Rose and Crown; and all their efforts were directed to preserve the adjoining houses from destruction, as the flames had taken hold of four of them. When the fire was subdued, a search was made in the ruins, and the charred bodies of four persons were found—three in the attics, and one on the second floor. The sufferers were Mr. Richard Harvey, the landlord; Mrs. Elizabeth Gray, his mother-in-law; Abraham Clark, a lodger; and George Hare, the potman. Mrs. Harvey had gone to Barking with her child for a few days, the child being unwell; and her mother had come to town to take charge of the house during her absence. Mrs. Harvey expected her husband at Barking on Sunday morning; but received, instead, this terrible news. At the inquest no information was obtained as to the origin of the fire. It would seem that the fire-escapes were soon on the spot, but the flames were already pouring from the windows so fiercely that it was impossible to use them. As the maid-servant was still in Guy's Hospital, the inquiry was adjourned till the 2nd of June, to allow time for her recovery that she might give evidence.

Another fatal *Railway Collision* has occurred on the North Midland Counties line. On the 20th inst., the engine of the train which leaves Derby for Leeds at 9.5 P.M. broke down, just after passing through the Clay Cross tunnel, half-way between Derby and Nottingham. The train was delayed about five minutes while the engineer repaired the engine. As it was starting again, a goods-train overtook it, ran into it at a sharp speed, and smashed its hindmost carriages. Mr. John Knight, of Bradford, builder, and Mr. Meynell, of Tipton, were killed, almost on the spot; Mrs. Knight was so contused that her recovery is doubtful; and several other persons suffered most serious injuries. A coroner's inquest was commenced next day, and has already established that the passenger-train was nearly half an hour late, and the goods-train many minutes too early. Lieutenant Douglas Galton, of the Royal Engineers, is attending the inquest on behalf of Government.

The following information respecting *Railway Casualties* is obtained from the returns made to the Commissioners of Railways. The total number of persons killed and injured on all the passenger railways open for public traffic in Great Britain and Ireland during the half-year ending the 31st December, 1850, amounted to 123 killed, and 188 injured, and that they may be classed as follows:—Nine passengers killed, and 138 injured, from causes beyond their own control. Thirty-four servants of companies or of contractors killed, and twenty-five injured from causes beyond their own control. Thirty-four servants of companies or of contractors killed, and eleven injured, owing to their own misconduct or want of caution. Twenty-six trespassers and other persons, neither passengers nor servants of the company, killed, and five injured, by crossing or walking on the railway. One suicide. Total, 123 killed; 188 injured. The number of passengers conveyed during the half-year amounted to 41,087,919. The length of railway open on the 30th of June, 1850, was 6308 miles. The length of railway open on the 31st of December, 1850, was 6621 miles. Increase during the half-year, 313 miles.

SOCIAL, SANITARY, AND MUNICIPAL PROGRESS.

THE inauguration of the *Exhibition of the Industry of all Nations* took place on Thursday, the 1st of May, with all the splendour and solemnity befitting so great an occasion. It drew together a greater assemblage of people than ever was known even in this immense metropolis; half a million of people, it is believed, was massed together in Hyde Park about noon, when the

Queen drove from Buckingham Palace. The line of visitors' carriages, of all descriptions, reached westwards from the entrance-gates of the park through Kensington towards Hammersmith, and eastwards to Long-acre; it thronged also the collateral streets; if it had been extended in single file it would have reached nearly twenty miles. Upon the whole, the day was beautiful: one passing shower, which fell shortly before the Queen made her appearance, served but to lay the dust, and to give greater freshness to the air. The Queen left Buckingham Palace a little before twelve. Nine carriages and pairs, conveyed her Majesty, Prince Albert, and two elder children, several royal guests, and those who attended, up Constitution Hill, and along Rotten Row, to the northern entrance of the Crystal Palace. The way was kept by a small party of life guards, and a large body of police. As the *cortège* drove up to the Palace, the reception of her majesty was enthusiastic, and she entered the building amid a burst of genuine good feeling from the people assembled. The Queen seemed full of emotion at the greatness of the occasion and at the welcome, but she was soon lost within the walls of the palace, from whence, after the lapse of a few minutes, loud cheers burst forth; and when the strains of "God Save the Queen" were heard, many of the people took up the anthem, amidst the roar of the cannon, and the busy hum of the crowds that thronged the wide arena. The arrangements for the opening of the building, and the reception of her Majesty and the public had been carried on through the whole of the preceding night, and were completed by eight o'clock in the morning. At nine the doors were opened to the holders of season tickets. The crowd kept flowing in for more than an hour, in such dense columns that temporary barriers, placed by the executive committee to protect the space round the throne, were in part swept away, and the entire space of the nave seemed to be permanently in possession of the spectators. Gentlemen might be seen distracted about places for their wives and daughters; who added to their excitement by asking explanations of police-passes which could not be explained, and by urgent entreaties to take up positions which were clearly not tenable. About ten o'clock, the police succeeded in establishing order. Spectators gradually took up their places, and every proper and reasonable facility was afforded for the royal progress round the nave of the building. At about half-past ten, the appearance of notabilities in the crowd began to excite attention. The Duke of Wellington, as usual, arrived early. He was looking extremely well, and was conversing gaily with a numerous circle of ladies grouped around him. As soon as he was noticed, the customary tribute of applause was rendered; and then immediately a further and more hearty demonstration was made, as it was remembered that on that very day—the first of May—the old warrior had completed his eighty-second year. In a short time he descended to the area below; and was seen chatting with the Marquis of Anglesea and with Mr. Paxton. Mr. Cobden was introduced to him by Mr. Fox Maule. While field-marshal the commander-in-chief and the president of the peace congress were conversing, a buttoned Chinese mandarin, arrayed in the quaint and magnificent costume of his country, approached, caught the duke's eye, made him a profound salaam, and held out his hand for an English salute. The duke gave his hand—apparently uncertain to whom. The unknown celestial then repeated his obeisance to the marquis of Anglesea, and received a courteous acknowledgment. It proved that he was the mandarin Hsing, of the royal Chinese junk, now anchored in the Thames, for the inspection of the English. Hsing attracted the attention of the Queen, and at her request was subsequently placed in a distinguished position in the royal procession. It had been originally contemplated that the centre of the nave should remain entirely unoccupied, but this arrangement was found impracticable; and thus her Majesty and the state procession were left to make their progress between living walls of loyal subjects and admiring foreigners, extending in long lines from one end of the building to the other. It was near twelve when the faint huzzas of crowds outside announced that the Queen had arrived; the royal salute from across the Serpentine was scarcely heard

within the building, but in its stead a loud flourish of trumpets told that her Majesty had entered the building. She was conducted at once to the robing-room, and thence, after a short pause, attended by her court, proceeded between flower-stands and tropical plants, past the Colebrook-dale gates, and the fountains and statuary with which that part of the edifice is adorned, to the throne in the centre. On her appearance the vast assemblage rose to welcome her, a burst of enthusiastic cheering broke forth from every side—ladies waved their handkerchiefs, gentlemen their hats, and the whole scene presented was one of unusual splendour. The sun, too, emerged from the clouds that for some time previously had dimmed his lustre, and a flood of light pouring in through the glittering dome of the transept illuminated the imposing scene. When her Majesty ascended the throne, attended by the royal family and the distinguished visitors of her court, the organ pealed forth the notes of the national anthem, and the immense choir collected for the occasion accompanied the strain. His Royal Highness Prince Albert, when the music had ceased, joined the royal commissioners, who drew near to the throne and read to her Majesty the Report of the proceedings of the commission. After giving an account of the origin of the Exhibition, and the efforts made to accomplish its objects, the Report proceeded to say: "We have now the gratification of stating that our anticipations of support in this case have in all respects been fully realised. Your Majesty's most gracious donation to the funds of the Exhibition was the signal for voluntary contributions from all, even the humblest, classes of your subjects, and the funds which have thus been placed at your disposal amount at present to about 65,000*l*. Local committees, from which we have uniformly received the most zealous co-operation, were formed in all parts of the united kingdom, in many of your Majesty's colonies, and in the territories of the hon. East India Company. The most energetic support has also been received from the governments of nearly all the countries in the world, in most of which commissions have been appointed for the special purpose of promoting the objects of an exhibition justly characterised in your Majesty's royal warrant, as an Exhibition of the Works of Industry of all Nations. We have also to acknowledge the great readiness with which persons of all classes have come forward as exhibitors. And here again it becomes our duty to return our humble thanks to your Majesty for the most gracious manner in which your Majesty has condescended to associate yourself with your subjects by yourself contributing some most valuable and interesting articles to the Exhibition. The number of exhibitors whose productions it has been found possible to accommodate is about 15,000, of whom nearly one-half are British. The remainder represent the productions of more than forty foreign countries, comprising almost the whole of the civilised nations of the globe. In arranging the space to be allotted to each, we have taken into consideration both the nature of its productions and the facilities of access to this country afforded by its geographical position. Your Majesty will find the productions of your Majesty's dominions arranged in the western portion of the building, and those of foreign countries in the eastern. The Exhibition is divided into the four great classes of—1. Raw Materials; 2. Machinery; 3. Manufactures; and 4. Sculpture and the Fine Arts. A further division has been made according to the geographical position of the countries represented; those which lie within the warmer latitudes being placed near the centre of the building, and the colder countries at the extremities. Your Majesty having been graciously pleased to grant a site in this your royal park for the purposes of the Exhibition, the first column of the structure now honoured by your Majesty's presence was fixed on the 26th of September last. Within the short period, therefore, of seven months, owing to the energy of the contractors and the active industry of the workmen employed by them, a building has been erected, entirely novel in its construction, covering a space of more than eighteen acres, measuring 1,851 feet in length, and 456 feet in extreme breadth, capable of containing 40,000 visitors, and affording a frontage for the exhibition of goods to the extent of more than ten miles. For the

original suggestion of the principle of this structure the commissioners are indebted to Mr. Joseph Paxton, to whom they feel their acknowledgments to be justly due for this interesting feature of their undertaking. With regard to the distribution of rewards to deserving exhibitors, we have decided that they should be given in the form of medals, not with reference to merely individual competition, but as rewards for excellence in whatever shape it may present itself. The selection of the persons to be so rewarded has been entrusted to juries equally composed of British subjects and of foreigners, the former having been selected by the commission from the recommendations made by the local committees, and the latter by the governments of the foreign nations, the productions of which are exhibited. The names of these jurors, comprising as they do many of European celebrity, afford the best guarantee of the impartiality with which the rewards will be assigned. It affords much gratification that, notwithstanding the magnitude of this undertaking, and the great distances from which many of the articles now exhibited have had to be collected, the day on which your Majesty has been graciously pleased to be present at the inauguration of the Exhibition, is the same day that was originally named for its opening; thus affording a proof of what may, under God's blessing, be accomplished by goodwill and cordial co-operation among nations, aided by the means that modern science has placed at our command." The Queen read the following reply: "I receive with the greatest satisfaction the address which you have presented to me on the opening of this Exhibition. I have observed with a warm and increasing interest the progress of your proceedings in the execution of the duties intrusted to you by the Royal Commission, and it affords me sincere gratification to witness the successful result of your judicious and unremitting exertions in the splendid spectacle by which I am this day surrounded. I cordially concur with you in the prayer, that by God's blessing this undertaking may conduce to the welfare of my people and to the common interests of the human race, by encouraging the arts of peace and industry, strengthening the bonds of union among the nations of the earth, and promoting a friendly and honourable rivalry in the useful exercise of those faculties which have been conferred by a beneficent Providence for the good and the happiness of mankind." The Archbishop of Canterbury then approached the throne, and with great fervency of manner offered up a prayer, invoking God's blessing on the undertaking. At the close of this prayer the choir joined in singing the Hallelujah Chorus, and the effect of this performance may be estimated from the fact that the Chapel Royal, St. Paul's Cathedral, Westminster Abbey, and St. George's Chapel, Windsor, contributed their entire vocal strength, while there were also present pupils of the Royal Academy of Music, part of the band of the Sacred Harmonic Society, and many other performers, both foreign and English. At the close of this part of the proceedings, Hsing, the Chinese Mandarin, unable any longer to control his feelings, made his way through foreign diplomatists, ministers of state, and the distinguished circle with which court etiquette had surrounded the throne, and, advancing close to the Queen saluted her by a grand salaam: her Majesty acknowledged the obeisance, and saluted the Mandarin in return; and at her request he was placed between the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Comptroller of the Household. A procession was then formed; headed by Mr. Paxton, Mr. Henderson, and Mr. Fox; then followed the Executive Committee of the Royal Commission, the Foreign Acting Commissioners, the Royal Commissioners themselves, and officers of the Queen's Household. Her Majesty led the Prince of Wales, and Prince Albert the Princess Royal; both parents and children looking extremely well. The Queen bore herself with courteous but dignified restraint, as if feeling more excitement than she would display. Prince Albert appeared less composed; his emotion at the successful realisation of his own idea was very visible. The procession moved slowly round the interior of the building, amid vehement cheers and waving of hats and handkerchiefs, till it returned to the point from whence it started. When the Queen returned to her place, the Marquis of Breadalbane, in a

loud tone of voice, announced that the Queen declared "the Exhibition open." A flourish of trumpets proclaimed the fact to the assembled multitudes. The Royal family, attended by the Court, withdrew from the building, the choir once more took up the strain of the National Anthem; the barriers, which had hitherto restrained the spectators within certain limits, were withdrawn, and the long pent-up masses poured over every part of the building, unrestrained by policemen, and eager to gratify their curiosity.

A *Grand Entertainment* was given on the 10th, at the Castle Hotel, Richmond, by the Metropolitan Local Commissioners of the Great Exhibition to the foreign commissioners. Lord Ashburton presided, and was supported by the Earl of Granville and Lord Overstone. Among the distinguished foreign guests were M. Charles Dupin, M. Dumas, and some other members of the French legislature, with M. Jules Janin. The health of Prince Albert was proposed by the chairman, with an eulogistic sketch of the difficulties which the Prince had to encounter in bringing the Exhibition to its present shape. The chairman then gave the health of the foreign commissioners, and the toast was acknowledged by M. von Viebahn in their names. M. Dupin, in an eloquent speech, proposed the health of the royal commissioners, which was responded to by Lord Granville. The last toast was the health of Mr. Paxton, proposed by Mr. Herace Greeley, of the United States, and received with enthusiasm.

The ninth annual meeting of the supporters of the *Field Lane Ragged School and Night Refuge for the Destitute* was held on the 30th ult. in the school-room in Field Lane. Lord Ashley, who presided, observed that he knew no school in the metropolis conducted with so much zeal and ability as were displayed in the management of the Field-lane school, and there was no institution of the same nature from which such valuable benefits had been derived. From the annual Report, which was read, it appeared that 800 children were benefited every week by some branch of the establishment. Since the last autumn meeting 309 scholars had been admitted into the day school, making a total of 1038 admitted since the enlargement of the school in 1848. There was a marked and pleasing alteration in the general appearance and conduct of the children. The Monday evening classes for the secular instruction of those whose age and occupation excluded them from participating in the day instruction had admitted during the year 216 boys and 136 girls. The majority of these were of the very lowest class—common beggars or "mudlarks." The industrial class consisting of those engaged in tailoring or shoemaking had been very successful. During the year 309 had been admitted to this class; 170 belonging to the young men's class had also been admitted in the same period. 728 articles of new and second-hand clothes had also been distributed as rewards, 435 subscription cards to receive deposits for new made clothes at half the price of the material had been issued. The receipts for the year amounted to 345*l.* 10*s.* 3*d.*, and the expenditure to 341*l.* 2*s.* 4*d.*, leaving a small balance in the hands of the treasurer. There would be an extra annual expense of 150*l.* for the nightly refuge. The report was adopted, and the resolutions were passed, calling upon the meeting to lend their support to ragged schools.

The *Canterbury Association* gave a public dinner on the 7th to the emigrants of the working classes who have sailed for New Zealand this month in the first expedition of ships of the main body of Canterbury colonists for 1851; and the cabin passenger colonists met at the same time and in the same apartment at a public breakfast, with their friends. The two parties were about equal in number; and in all—men, women and children—there were nearly 500 persons partaking of the entertainment. It was given in a temporary building, most conveniently erected close to the six ships which were about to be despatched by the association, and which were lying in the East India import dock. The emigrants seemed to be mostly married couples, hale and cheerful, in the very prime of life, with their children about them. Before dinner, Lady Lyttelton, with the usual ceremonies, named one of the ships, the *Canterbury*, a fine vessel of 900 tons. Lord Lyttelton

was in the chair. The Duke of Newcastle, Viscountess Galway, Lord Wodehouse, the Dean of Carlisle, Mr. E. G. Wakefield, and many other influential supporters of the Association, were among the company.

The *Metropolitan Sanitary Association* held a public banquet on the 10th, at the Symposium of M. Soyer, Gore House, Kensington. The Earl of Carlisle presided, and many distinguished sanitary reformers were present. The noble chairman gave the toast of the evening in an able and interesting speech, in the course of which he alluded to the considerations naturally suggested by the contemplation of the Great Exhibition. They had (he said) close to where they sat, that remarkable building which was in itself a shrine of labour; but while they gazed on the long array of its radiant offerings, or the results of its harmonious combinations, let them not refrain from tracing them back in thought to the crowded workshops, to the damp cellars, and to the stifling garrets in which so much of that collected mass of ingenuity and splendour had been elaborated. And they should derive, perhaps, not the least precious lesson which the Crystal Palace could teach, if, transferring their care from the work to the workman, they studied, as best they could, to surround the abode of his daily health with some portion of the decency, the comfort, and the enjoyment with which he so plentifully enriched their own. It was well known that the typhus fever selected a large proportion of its victims from among adults in the full vigour of health; and if he might borrow another hint from the immediate accompaniment of the place in which they were met, he would beg to remark that nothing could be so little sanitary as bad cookery. He was not without reverence for the invigorating qualities of their old English fare, but he thought they would be carrying the spirit of nationality very far if they did not admit that, with respect to their culinary character as a nation, they were somewhat deficient in variety and resource. M. Soyer had already displayed an admirable disposition to enter on a career in which he (the Earl of Carlisle) really thought he might do substantial service, if, besides exercising those recondite mysteries which qualified him to take his place with a Ude and other kindred artists, he should initiate our humbler English people in some of the arts which would render their cookery at once more cheap and more varied than it had hitherto been. It had been computed by those who had given great attention to the matter that the annual loss arising from unnecessary sickness, from unnecessary death, from the loss of labour, and from the cost of the excessive number of premature funerals, amounted to several millions in England and Wales; and he would there observe, as they were warranted this year in addressing all nations, that whatever our deficiencies might be, we did not occupy the least favourable, but rather an advanced, position in the comparative rate of mortality upon other countries.—Mr. Charles Dickens, in proposing “The Board of Health” defended it from the charge made against it of being a board of “centralisation.” He thought that in the time of the cholera the public had a pretty good opportunity of judging between this so-called centralisation and what he might, he thought, call “vestrylisation.” He dared to say that the company had read the reports of the Cholera Board of Health, and he dared to say they had also read reports of certain vestries. He had the honour of belonging to a constituency which elected that amazing body the Marylebone vestry; and he thought that if the company present would look to what was done by the Board of Health at Glasgow, and then contrast those proceedings with the wonderful cleverness with which affairs were managed at the same period in the parish of Marylebone, there would be very little difficulty in judging between them. His pet vestry even took upon itself to deny the existence of cholera, as a weak invention of the enemy; and, although that stout denial had, unfortunately, had no effect in stopping the ravages of the pestilence, still it would now serve as an example to show gentlemen what was the meaning of “vestrylisation” as distinguished from “centralisation.” He would give them the “Board of Health,” and would couple with it the name of a noble lord, of whose earnestness in works of benevolence no man could doubt, and who had the courage to face the cant which was the commonest of all, the cant about

the cant of philanthropy.—The toast was drank with cheers, and Lord Ashley briefly responded. The Rev. Mr. Hume, Mr. Monckton Milnes, Mr. G. Cruickshank, and Mr. W. Rogers also addressed the meeting in the course of the evening.

The sixty-first anniversary of the *Literary Fund* was celebrated at Freemasons’ Hall, on the 14th, with great éclat. M. Van de Weyer presided, and besides many members of our own legislature, there were present some illustrious foreigners—as Baron Martini, and Baron Charles Dupin. The speech of the evening was made by Mr. Thackeray, on behalf of the English novelists. He was anxious (he said) to make the foreigners aware that the literary men of this country are not the “unfortunate, degraded, and seedy people” that are pictured for the time of George the Second; that disreputable phantom ought now to be hissed out of society. He did not believe that a man of talent and character is obliged to do anything that an honest man should be ashamed of; and, therefore, he hoped that from this day forward the oppressed author will disappear from amongst us. The author nowadays does not want patrons—except such as those now around him; for there is no longer anything degrading in his profession. Mr. Thackeray added, that he had experienced, at one period of his career, the advantage of temporary assistance; and he was anxious to extend, by means of the institution, that aid to his brethren which he found so useful to himself.

The Lord Chancellor has expressed his determination not to appoint any clergymen to proferments in Wales, who are *Unacquainted with the Language*. The first Welsh living which fell to the Chancellor for disposal was that of Tir Newydd, in Anglesey; it was given to a thorough Welsh scholar, and this was considered evidence of Lord Truro’s intention that the language spoken by the majority of the flock should be the language of the minister. The Bishop of Llandaff has now followed the example of the Lord Chancellor, having declined to institute the Rev. Mr. Brand to the living of Michaelstone Vedw, on the ground of that gentleman’s ignorance of the Welsh tongue.

A Madras newspaper has published a series of statistical tables of the *Health of the European and Native Troops of that Presidency*, from 1842 to 1849 inclusive, together with returns showing the influence of intemperance on sickness, morality, and crime, and the comparative ratio of punishments awarded to the teetotallers, the temperate, and the intemperate men of the European force. These documents exhibit a decided improvement in the general health of the men, both European and native. The returns of the relative state of intemperance in the former show that there were, in 1849, 450 teetotaller, 4318 temperate, and 942 intemperate soldiers in the 15th Hussars, 25th, 51st, 84th, and 94th, foot. Of these, 589 teetotallers, 6114 temperate, and 2204 intemperate men, were admitted into hospital; of the first *five* died, of the temperate *one hundred*, and of the intemperate *forty-two*. The return of the number of punishments awarded in 1849, in the royal regiments, shows that 159 teetotallers, 3882 temperate, and 2498 intemperate were punished. The number of courts-martial during the year were—on teetotallers, *none*; temperate, 143; intemperate, 289.

The *Board of Trade* returns, for the month ending April 5th, show an increase of exports and imports, both compared with the preceding month and with the same months of 1849 and 1850. The exports were 1,559,433*l.* beyond those of the same month in 1849, and 1,181,444*l.* beyond those of the same month in 1850.

The quarterly returns of *Marriages, Births, and Deaths*, have been published. In the year ending December 31st, the marriages showed an extraordinary increase; in 1849, they were 141,599; last year they were 152,235. The increase extended over eight out of the eleven divisions of England and Wales; but there was a decrease in the south, midland, and eastern divisions. In the quarter ending March, 1851, the births, 157,374, were more than ever had been registered in any previous quarter. The deaths, 105,446, were fewer by 15,000 than had been registered in the same quarters of 1847-8, but more by 7000 than were registered in the same quarter of 1850.

PERSONAL NARRATIVE.

THE Queen and the Royal Family came to town from Windsor on the 28th ult. for the season. On the following day the Prince and Princess of Prussia, with the Princess Louisa and Prince Frederick William, arrived at Buckingham Palace.

On the 7th, her Majesty gave a state ball, to which upwards of two thousand persons were invited. The Queen opened the dancing with the Prince of Prussia for her partner in a quadrille, Prince Albert and the Princess of Prussia vis-à-vis. After a state supper in the principal dining-room, the Queen returned to the ball-room, and the dancing was kept up till two in the morning; Highland reels being performed to the spirited music of "Mr. Mackay, her Majesty's piper."

The Duke and Duchess of Saxe Coburg, Prince Leiningen, and the Duke of Wurttemberg and suite, arrived in London on the 17th, on a visit to the Queen at Buckingham Palace. The Queen gave a state ball on the 19th to a most brilliant court, the invitations exceeding 2100. On the 22nd the Court left town for the Isle of Wight. Besides her Majesty, Prince Albert, and the royal family, the Prince and Princess of Prussia, Prince Frederick William and the Princess Louisa of Prussia, the Duke and Duchess of Saxe Coburg Gotha, and Duke Ernest of Wurttemberg, accompanied the Queen as her Majesty's guests at Osborne.

Sir Andries Stockenström, Mr. Fairbairn's colleague, representing the colony of the Cape of Good Hope as claimants of justice from the Imperial Government, arrived in London on the 16th.

Prince Albert has contributed the sum of 25*l.* in aid of the subscription intended as a provision for the declining years of Mrs. Ward, the daughter of Lord Nelson.

The *Siccle* has the following paragraph in reference to Abd-el-Kader. "A short time since a detachment of the 7th Chasseurs were sent to the garrison of Amboise, for the purpose of escorting Abd-el-Kader in the promenade which the Emir has been authorised to make in the country surrounding his place of confinement. On Tuesday, for the first time since his arrival at Amboise, (says the *Progrès d'Indre-et-Loire*,) the Emir left the château. His Highness rode in a small carriage, drawn by two white horses, and was escorted by sixteen chasseurs in full uniform. The party left about three o'clock, drove as far as Chenonceaux, and returned to the château at seven o'clock."

A blind student gained one of the principal prizes for Greek at a recent examination in the University of Edinburgh. He was a native of Dunkeld, and had used in his studies extracts from the books he was examined in, printed in raised characters, which he traced with his fingers.

Lord Bloomfield, now Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary at the Court of St. Petersburg, is appointed Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary at the Court of Berlin; Sir George Hamilton Seymour, G.C.B., now Envoy Extraordinary and Minis-

ter Plenipotentiary at the Court of Lisbon, is appointed Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary at the Court of St. Petersburg; and Sir Richard Pakenham, K.C.B., sometime Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to the United States of America, is to be Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary at the Court of Lisbon.

Mr. Rutherford, late Lord Advocate of Scotland, now a Judge of the Supreme Court, has been sworn in a member of the Privy Council.

At a public meeting at the Council-Hall, Sheffield, it has been resolved, "That Ebenezer Elliott's long, zealous, and successful advocacy of free-trade, and his great genius as a poet, deserve to be publicly acknowledged by the erection of a monument to his memory." A subscription has accordingly been entered into, and 230*l.* has been already subscribed, chiefly in Sheffield.

The Duke of Northumberland has just set a very praiseworthy example of liberality to his brother peers. Arrangements have been made for admitting the public to a sight of Northumberland and Sion Houses during the course of the Exhibition.

Sir M. Shaw Stewart has presented a park to the town council of Greenock, in trust for the use of the inhabitants.

Obituary of Notable Persons.

ADMIRAL SIR EDWARD CODRINGTON, G.C.B., died on the 28th ult., at his house in Eaton-square, in his 82nd year.

THE COUNTESS OF RADNOR died on the 27th ult., at Lord Radnor's Seat, Coleshill, Berks.

THE EARL OF COTTENHAM, late Lord High Chancellor of England, whose retirement from public life was so recent, died at Pietra Santa, in the Duchy of Lucca, on the 29th ult., in the 71st year of his age.

MRS. ALEXANDER LEE, formerly Mrs. Waylett, the well-known actress and singer, died on the 26th, after a painful illness of seven years' duration.

THE EARL OF HANTRY died at Glengariff Lodge on the 2nd inst., in his 84th year.

THOMAS HARRISON, Esq., one of the Commissioners of the Board of Inland Revenue, died on the 6th inst., at his house in Alpha-place, Regents'-park, after a long and painful illness.

HER ROYAL HIGHNESS THE DUCHESS OF LEUCHTENBERG died at Munich on the 13th inst., in her 63rd year. She was daughter to King Maximilian, of Bavaria, by his first marriage with a princess of Darmstadt.

MAJOR-GENERAL SIR W. MORISON, K.C.B., M.P. for the burghs of Clackmannan and Kiross, died on the 15th inst., in Saville-row.

VISCOUNT STRATHALLAN died at Castle Strathallan, in Perthshire, on the 14th inst., in the 85th year of his age. He was restored in 1824 to the honours of his family, which had been forfeited after the battle of Culloden. He was one of the representative peers of Scotland.

COLONEL THE HON. EDWARD CADOGAN died on the 14th inst. at Pau, in the department of the Pyrenees, in the 62nd year of his age. He was brother to Earl Cadogan.

COLONEL HUGH MITCHELL, Second Colonel Commandant of the Woolwich division of Royal Marines, died at the Royal Marine Barracks, after a very short illness.

COLONIES AND DEPENDENCIES.

THE news from the Cape of Good Hope is not yet so hopeful as last month's accounts had led us to expect.

The insurgent Kaffirs still hold Sir Harry Smith in check. Fresh troops, and two sub-commissioners, are going out to help; and the prospect in respect of expenditure becomes more and more serious. Meanwhile Colonial questions and complaints have occupied some part of the time of the House of Commons during the past month, but without much promise of any useful result. The wrong or the remedy does not really lie with any particular colonial minister, but with the system which every minister finds in operation, and, whatever his own views may be, is more or less obliged to continue. Colonial reform means nothing less than an entire re-constitution of the system, as well as the office, by which Colonial affairs are now administered; and this is what will have to be effected before many more years are over.

The *Bombay Mail* of the 17th of April brings no intelligence of moment. The Governor-General was on his way to Simla. Rumours were afloat of an intended

expedition against the Affreedies. Captain Grantham, of the 98th Foot, who was so dreadfully wounded by a set of Affreedie marauders in the end of February, died at

Peshawur on the 15th of March. The most stringent measures have been ordered by the Governor-General to be carried out against those of the hill robbers who should fall into our hands, and scarcely a day is said to pass without one or more of them being hanged. A commission had been appointed to inquire into the malpractices of the Bengal Commissariat. A deficit of more than 3000*l.* had been discovered in the Bengal Military Orphan Fund.

The dates from *Hong Kong* are to the 30th of March. Some late disturbances in the province of Kuangtse have had a deteriorating influence on trade at Canton.

The accounts from the *West Indies* are unimportant. The imports duty bill had passed both branches of the Jamaica Legislature, and received the Governor's assent. The accounts from the agricultural districts are unsatisfactory. Complaints are general with regard to the want of continuous labour. It is feared, that not only the present, but next year's crop will suffer from this cause. The rebellion in Hayti had been suppressed, Prince Bolos having failed to excite the Haytians in his favour.

A public meeting has lately been held in *Quebec*, to take into consideration the proposal of the British government to aid in the construction of the Quebec

and Halifax Railway. This meeting, from the accounts, was respectable and influential, so much so, that it may be said to be the voice of Quebec. Warm gratitude was expressed to England for its offer of aid. The advantages of the road were set forth, and these, it was contended, would be vast, considered in a national point of view. It was agreed to petition our legislature to take such steps as would meet the views of the English government. The strong feeling in favour of constructing railways still continues.

The intelligence from *Australia* relates chiefly to the progress of anti-convict agitation. At a meeting in Adelaide, on the 8th of February, the grievance to the unpolluted colonies, of continually filling to overflow the penal colony of Van Diemen's Land, was earnestly insisted on. Opinions were expressed that indirect transportation to the other colonies, through the migration of the ex-convicts, is more injurious than direct transportation from the mother-country. A speaker from Van Diemen's Land—once an official, sent out by Lord John Russell's Government nine years ago—stated, that almost every schoolmaster in Hobart Town, now, is a convicted criminal. A meeting of delegates at Melbourne had pledged itself by resolutions not to employ convict labour, and to have no dealings with any who do employ such labour.

NARRATIVE OF FOREIGN EVENTS.

THE close of last month left the Duke of Saldanha a fugitive rebel, and the opening of the present month hailed him a victorious prime minister. There was a time in English history, now some three hundred years ago, when a statesman could only anchor himself in the not always peaceful haven now called Downing Street by sending some rival statesman to the scaffold; and the late movement of the Duke of Saldanha against Count Thomar, with its issue, seems to show that Portuguese government in the nineteenth century is pretty much what English government was in the sixteenth. The sudden turn of success to Saldanha's outbreak was given by the unexpected adhesion of the garrison of Oporto.

In other respects the continental world has been quiet enough. The Germans are eagerly preparing for the re-assemblage of the old Frankfort Diet, as a child might be looking for its re-constructed plaything which in a sulky passion it had torn to pieces. The French are (more gravely) preparing for the revision of the Constitution which is to make Louis Napoleon re-eligible with the consent of the Assembly, or for the alternative of that *coup d'état* which is at once to re-elect him with consent of "the army and the people." But all as yet is quiet.

In *France* there is much political excitement on the question of the revival of the Constitution. The great political clubs are successfully taking their sides, with a view to the approaching contest. The party of Order, as the Conservatives call themselves, the Legitimists, and the "Fusionist" branch of the Orleanists—a branch now little to be distinguished from the overt Legitimists—have all resolved to vote for the revision of the Constitution. The followers of M. Thiers, who are the really staunch portion of the "Orleanists," remain neutral; intending, it is said, to declare at the latest juncture in favour of the most probable winners. On the other hand, the Republicans of all shades unite against the proposed revision. The most remarkable feature of these declarations is, that the Legitimists now make, under the advice of the veteran Berryer, a frank avowal of their hope that the nation will use the revision for the direct and immediate restoration of the Legitimate Monarchy and the enthronement of the Count de Chambord.

The intelligence from *Germany* continues to be unimportant. The conference at Dresden terminated, without any formality, on the 14th instant. At a morning sitting protocols of the proceedings were finally agreed on, and in an afternoon sitting these protocols were duly attested. The plenipotentiaries then separated. The event was marked by diplomatic banquets in the evening. The King of Prussia has gone on a visit to the Emperor of Russia in Warsaw. The two Sovereigns met on the 18th instant at Skierniewice, and went in company to the Polish capital.

The Duke of Saldanha's insurrectionary movement in *Portugal* has been successful. The rising of the garrison of Oporto in the Duke's favour decided the contest. It was caused by the arrest of several officers by the Count de Casal, the Governor of Oporto, who remained faithful to the Queen's cause, and who possessed proofs of a projected movement in Oporto. The Count, after making several ineffectual attempts to quell the revolt, abruptly quitted Oporto on the 25th ult., accompanied by only one aide-de-camp. Colonel Cardozo, of the 2nd Infantry, in endeavouring to bring his men to obedience, was shot by the soldiers. The Duke of Saldanha entered Oporto on the 27th, and established his headquarters there. The whole city turned out to welcome him, and his reception was most enthusiastic. On the 29th he reviewed the troops in garrison. The movement in Oporto being communicated on the 26th, by telegraph, to Lisbon, Count de Thomar's ministry immediately tendered its resignation to the Queen, and this being accepted, the Count embarked for Vigo, from whence he arrived in London on the 15th inst. At the date of the latest accounts from Lisbon, a new ministry had been formed.

It appears by the accounts from *Rome* that that city continues in a very disturbed state. The French General Gemenau has issued a proclamation against the carrying of arms. All fire-arms, and poniard knives were ordered to be deposited at the "*Elat Maen de la place*" before the 17th of May. After which *doux* domestic visits will take place; every inhabitant retaining arms in his pos-

session will be arrested, and brought before a court-martial, to be judged according to the usual laws, and besides the sentence there passed upon him he will be fined fifteen scudi for each weapon found in his house. The proprietors of houses will be responsible for weapons seized in them. The prohibition extends to sticks of such dimensions as to lead to the inference that they contain concealed arms. Notwithstanding these stringent measures, assassinations of French soldiers take place almost every night. A combination against the use of tobacco has reached such a pitch that not a cigar is to be seen in the streets or *cafés*, save in the mouths

of some stray foreigner or French soldier, and even in the Trastevere, where it is to the interest of the people to keep up the consumption of tobacco, as many of the women are employed by Prince Torlonia in the preparation of cigars, the men have cheerfully thrown away their weeds and pipes as soon as they understood what was meant by the sacrifice. The pecuniary loss to the monopolist, Prince Torlonia, is believed to be enormous, but it appears that he will receive compensation from the government by being allowed to raise the price of salt one bajocco per pound, he being the monopolist of that most necessary article of consumption also.

NARRATIVE OF LITERATURE AND ART.

THE incident of the month most important in connection with literature has been the reversal by the judges in the Court of Exchequer chamber of a very momentous judgment pronounced by the barons of exchequer two years ago on the subject of literary copyright. By that judgment it was declared that under the statute of Anne no copyright could be acquired by a foreigner or his assignee as a consequence of a first publication in England; and one result of a decision promulgated with such weight of authority, and supported by great force and clearness of reasoning, has been a perfect inundation of the English book-market with cheap reprints of American books (conspicuous among them, those of Washington Irving) which before this decision had been held entitled to the protection of English Copyright. It is now declared that those unauthorised reprints have been piracies, and that any foreigner may at any time secure his right in England by simply electing that his book be first published here.

The argument on the one side is to the effect that the object of the English legislature in passing the act of Anne was not to encourage the importation of foreign books, and their first publication in England as a benefit to this country, but that its sole object was the cultivation and encouragement of the intellect of its own subjects; and therefore that the meaning of the act, as its own language emphatically states, was "to encourage learned men to compose and write useful books," by giving them as a reward the monopoly of those books for a certain period. On the other side it is argued, that, assuming the legislature to have necessarily intended this boon for the encouragement of learning in Great Britain, the question remains of whether it might not be greatly for the encouragement of British learning, even in the sense of the legislators of Anne, that "foreigners should be induced to send their works here to be first published;" and that therefore this consideration should not avail to withhold an alien from acquiring and assigning English copyright.

When such grave doctors differ, who shall decide? Few will be disposed to think that the weight justly due to Lord Campbell, and Justices Cresswell and Maule, is not balanced pretty equally by that of Lord Cranworth, the Lord Chief Baron, and Baron James Parke; so that there can hardly be a doubt of the case being carried to the Lords for final decision, however doubtful the issue of that decision may be. It seems to us, we must confess, that the more the history and meaning of the act of Anne is enquired into, the more clearly will the construction against copyright to an alien be borne out; but yet, if a reasonable doubt exists, there are many reasons which would tend to give foreigners the benefit of it, and so we must be content to wait patiently until time, and the temper of the House of Lords, shall put an end to this "glorious uncertainty."

The most interesting publication of the month has been a newly discovered series of *Letters by Horace Walpole*, addressed to his and Gray's friend, Mason; for which we are indebted to the judgment and good fortune of Mr. Mitford, who, having found Mason's share of the correspondence, traced Walpole's to the library of Aston Rectory, where Mason resided for so many years. The subjects of the letters turning more upon literature than politics, they involve fewer repetitions of matter already familiar to us than is usual with Walpole; while the felicity and wit of his style are as apparent and delightful as ever. To our knowledge, indeed, in connection with literary topics, they add little; but to our amusement at the absurd exaggeration of Walpole's prejudices and dislikes, they minister abundantly; and they not only clear up several doubtful points in Walpole's intercourse with Gray, but explain his participation with Mason in the secrets of the satire which did such lively execution in its day, the *Herode Epistle*.

To the department of biography the *Life of Edward Baines* by one of his sons is the only direct contribution, and it contains that kind of picture of honourable and well-aimed industry, intelligence, prudence, and steady attachment to opinion, which when crowned with worldly success is viewed with so much interest in England. But another book may be mentioned, connected with this for its historical and social, as well as its biographical illustrations, though belonging to a very different period and character. A little volume has been

published exhibiting *College Life in the Time of James the First*, as drawn from the unpublished diary of Sir Simon d'Ewes; which deserves notice for the example it sets to antiquarians (exacting too much self-denial, we fear, to be generally followed) of at once conscientiously communicating the results of research and pleasantly dispensing with its dust and dryness.

Two new books are to be added to the shelves already overloaded with tours and travels in *America*. Their authors are the Lady Emmeline Stuart Wortley and Col. Arthur Cunynghame, and a more than usually polite and favourable view of the American character is taken in both. Mrs. Norton has published a charming novel called *Stuart of Dunleath*, and Miss Lynn has denounced what she conceives to be the social errors of the day in a novel called *Realities*. A pretty little collection of animated and fanciful *Pictures of Sweden* has been written and published (in English) by Hans Andersen; and Mr. Walter Brodie, who was dropped and deserted with some companions on *Pitcairn's Island* by a ship in which he was taking his passage to California, has condensed into a small and very interesting book all the information he was able to collect of the virtuous and simple race of people descended from the mutineers of the *Bounty*.

Sir Francis Palgrave has issued the first volume of his long-promised *History of Normandy and of England*, carrying the subject down to the commencement of the tenth century; and marked by unquestionable originality, both of style and research. To Mr. Hudson Turner we

owe the publication of *Some Account of Domestic Architecture in England from the Conquest to the end of the Nineteenth Century* in a popular and pleasant manner, and with abundant illustrations. Miss Martineau has completed her *History of the Peace* by a valuable introduction comprising the first fifteen years of the century. And a very elaborate account of the *Culture and Commerce of Cotton in India and elsewhere*, has been published by Doctor Forbes Royle.

A new and complete translation of *Schiller's Poems* by Mr. Edgar Browning, and a clever though somewhat violent tragedy called *Violenzia*, appear to be the only poetical products of the month worth mention. Of Exhibition literature there has been not a little, but slight in character, and not claiming particular mention.

The *Art-Union of London* had its fifteenth annual meeting and drawing of prizes in the Lyceum Theatre on the 29th ult.; Lord Monteleale in the chair. The Report of the committee gave a flattering account of the progress of the society, and stated that in fifteen years they had raised 150,000*l.* The prizes were then drawn for: they consisted of works of art, of values from 20*l.* to 10*l.* each; and amounting in all to the sum of 4,000*l.*

The *Exhibition of the Royal Academy* opened on the 5th. It is rich in works of merit, and one of the most interesting that have taken place for several years. At the dinner of the Academy, on this occasion, a speech was delivered by Prince Albert, so remarkable for ability, sound views, and delicate appreciation of what is beautiful and valuable in art, that every lover of art will read it with pleasure. After gracefully responding to the toast of his health, and saying that he always derived the greatest pleasure and instruction from his visits to the Exhibition of the academy, though his engagements allowed him but seldom to join their festive dinner, his Royal Highness proceeded:—"I have, however, upon this occasion, made it a point to do so, in order to assist in what may be considered the inauguration festival of your newly-elected president, at whose election I have heartily rejoiced, not only on account of my high estimate of his qualities, but also on account of my feelings of regard towards him personally. It would be presumptuous in me to speak to you of his talent as an artist, for that is well known to you, and of it you are the best judges; or of his merits as an author, for you are all familiar with his books—or, at least, ought to be so; or of his amiable character as a man, for that also you must have had opportunities to estimate; but my connection with him, now for nine years, on her Majesty's Commission for the promotion of the Fine Arts, has enabled me to know what you can know less, and what is of the greatest value in a President of the Royal Academy—I mean that kindness of heart and refinement of feeling which guided him in all his communications, often most difficult and delicate, with the different artists whom we had to invite to competition, whose works we had to criticise, whom we had to employ or to reject. Gentlemen, the production of all works in art or poetry requires, in their conception or execution, not only an exercise of the intellect, skill, and patience, but particularly a concurrent warmth of feeling, and a free flow of imagination. This renders them most tender plants, which will thrive only in an atmosphere calculated to maintain that warmth, and that atmosphere is one of kindness—kindness towards the artist personally, as well as towards his production. An unkind word of criticism passes like a cold blast over their tender shoots, and shrinks them up, checking the flow of the sap which was rising to produce, perhaps, multitudes of flowers and fruit. But still criticism is absolutely necessary to the development of art, and the injudicious praise of an inferior work becomes an insult to superior genius. In this respect our times are peculiarly unfavourable when compared with those when Madonnas were painted in the seclusion of convents; for we have now, on the one hand, the eager competition of a vast array of artists of every degree of talent and skill, and, on the other, as judge, a great public, for the greater part wholly uneducated in art; and this led by professional writers, who often strive to impress the

public with a great idea of their own artistic knowledge, by the merciless manner in which they treat works which cost those who produced them the highest efforts of mind and feeling. The works of art, by being publicly exhibited and offered for sale, are becoming articles of trade, following as such the unreasoning laws of markets and fashion, and public, and even private, patronage is swayed by their tyrannical influence. It is, then, to an institution like this, gentlemen, that we must look for a counterpoise to these evils. Here young artists are educated and taught the mysteries of their profession; those who have distinguished themselves, and given proof of their talent and power, receive a badge of acknowledgment from their professional brethren by being elected associates of the Academy, and are at last, after long toil and continued exertion, received into a select aristocracy of a limited number, and shielded in any further struggle by their well-established reputation, of which the letters 'R.A.' attached to their names give a pledge to the public. If this body is often assailed from without, it shares only the fate of every aristocracy; if more than another, this only proves that it is even more difficult to sustain an aristocracy of merit than one of birth or of wealth, and may serve as an useful check upon yourselves, when tempted at your elections to let personal predilections compete with real merit. Of one thing, however, you may rest assured, and that is the continued favour of the crown. The same feeling which actuated George III. in founding this institution still actuates the crown in continuing to it its patronage and support, recognising in you a constitutional link, as it were, between the crown itself and the artistic body. And when I look at the assemblage of guests at this table, I may infer that the crown does not stand alone in this respect, but that those feelings are shared also by the great and noble in the land. May the Academy long flourish and continue its career of usefulness."

The Comedy, written by Sir Edward Bulwer Lytton, for the purpose of creating the nucleus of the Fund to be raised for carrying into effect the objects of the newly-formed Institution, *The Guild of Literature and Art*, was performed for the first time at Devonshire House on the 16th inst., through the kindness of the Duke of Devonshire, who is a warm supporter of the scheme. A spacious and magnificent room was converted into a theatre, complete in all its parts—stage, proscenium, orchestra, &c., the audience part being in the form of a pit, with the seats gradually raised from the front to the back. On one side, near the stage, was a box, surmounted by a canopy, in which sat the Queen and Prince Albert, attended by their suite. The room was completely full, something above 200 tickets, at five pounds each, having been issued. It is almost needless to say that the company was of the most distinguished description, consisting of the aristocracy of rank and fashion, literature and art. The comedy is entitled, "Not so bad as we seem, or, Many Sides to a Character." The actors were the Amateur Company, whose previous performances for benevolent purposes, are well known; the general management having been undertaken by Mr. Charles Dickens. There was a second performance at Devonshire House on the 27th, when the above comedy was followed by a farce entitled "Mr. Nightingale's Diary." The entertainments concluded with a ball. A crowd of fashionable company were present.

Mr. Thackeray has commenced a series of *Lectures on the English Humorists of the 18th Century*. The first Lecture, on the 22d inst., was on *Swift*.

Beethoven's celebrated opera, *Fidelio*, has been produced at both the Italian theatres. At Her Majesty's Theatre, the parts of the hero and heroine are performed by Sims Reeves and Mademoiselle Cruvelli; at the Royal Italian Opera, by F. Tambrilic and Madame Castellan.

The *Philharmonic Concerts* of this month were on the 12th and 26th inst. At the former, Signor Siviore appeared, after an absence of several years in America. At the latter, much interest was excited by the wonderful performance, by Signor Bottesini, of a concerto on the double-bass.

COMMERCIAL RECORD.

BANKRUPTS.

From the Gazette of April 29.—F. S. A. FRANCE, Lambeth Walk, clothier.—J. C. RIDGE, Great St. Helen's, wine-merchant.—C. HOLTHOUSE, Great Tower-street, sugar-broker.—J. BULLOCK, Bristol, innholder.—J. HILL, Saltash, miller.—J. TAYLOR, Bradford, Yorkshire, worsted-spinner.—J. SMITH, Lincoln, joiner.—J. EMBRY, Preston, innkeeper.

May 2. W. BURROWS, Park-street, Islington, surgeon.—J. WOODIN, Matilda-street, Islington, upholsterer.—R. SHEPPARD, Norwich, commission-agent.—W. JACKSON, Orchard-street, Portman-square, painter.—W. ARLEY, North Burton, Yorkshire, miller.—W. B. HARRISON, Chorlton-upon-Medlock, bleacher.—R. E. RAWLE, Bristol, wine-merchants.—J. McMURRAY, Liverpool, merchant.

May 6. F. EDWARDS, Sudbury, linendraper.—W. L. MARTIN, Gravesend, ironmonger.—G. WHEELER, Richmond, grocer.—S. COCKERILL, Northampton, draper.—J. EVETT, Shifnal, apothecary.—T. PEARSON, Plympton St. Mary, merchant.—F. FARRAND, Almondsbury, fancy-cloth manufacturer.

May 9. R. GUDGIN, Cople, Bedfordshire, victualler.—J. W. CREED, Tilbury Fort, innkeeper.—J. MOORES, jun., Aylesbury, draper.—C. SALTER and R. M. EVANS, Upper King-street, Bloomsbury, tailors.—A. DUTCHIE, Bonnet-street, Stamford-street, hat-manufacturer.—F. W. PROGGOTT and J. VAN PUTTEN, Mark-lane, corn-merchants.—D. KIRBY, Brackley, Northampton, shire, linendraper.—E. GOLDER, Folkestone, miller.—C. T. S. DEVEY, Woburn, auctioneer.—T. B. AGO, Birmingham, victualler.—I. HARPER, Dudley, builder.—J. MERRELL, Holy Cross, Worcestershire, cattle-dealer.—W. GRAY, Sunderland, draper.

May 13. A. WOODS, Great Yarmouth, money-scriver.—J. HETHERINGTON, High Holborn, grocer.—J. HARRIS, Buckingham, bootmaker.—D. MAGRATH, George's-row, City-road, colour-manufacturer.—T. H. BUTLER, Lichfield, ironmonger.—J. BARNISTER, Birmingham, general hardware dealer.—C. LAWES, Chippenhams, innkeeper.—J. RADLEY, Oldham, cotton-spinner.

May 16. J. CERRITO, Mincing-lane, merchant.—S. GRINSTEAD, Brighton, victualler.—J. CLARK, Clarence-place, Camberwell, auctioneer.—A. TARRANT, High Holborn, bookbinder.—W. H. AYLES, Rickmansworth, builder.—G. DODSON, Neath, Glamorganshire, painter.—C. BOND, Tiverton, tanner.—A. Y. BARNETT, Horncastle, Lincolnshire, engineer.—J. HOLDEX, Salford, victualler.

May 20. W. PAGE, Great Yarmouth, grocer, to surrender.—J. F. CASSAIGNA, Salisbury-street, Strand, wine-merchant.—J. F. FLEAKE, Hampstead-street, Fitzroy-square, victualler.—D. GIBSON, Minorities, clothier.—J. E. DOWSON, Oxford-street, ironmonger.—J. E. M'CAE, Parliament-street, lithographic-printer.—C. BOND, Bath, tanner.—R. and F. R. HAZARD, Bristol, victuallers.—R. BLISCOE, Liverpool, draper.—H. JONES, Gaerwen, Anglesea, ironmonger.—J. M'NAMEE, Manchester, chemist.—T. STORER DIBBONSON, Tynemouth, banker.

May 23. J. HUCKS, Mill-pond-bridge, Rotherhithe, cooper.—J. BAYNE, Wisbeach, draper.—S. E. R. JONES, Wrotham, Shropshire, apothecary.—G. MACHIN, Dudley, spade-manufacturer.—J. WILKINSON, Nottingham, brace-manufacturer.—E. W. REILLER, Bath, livery-stablekeeper.—W. G. H. TAUNTON, Liverpool, civil-engineer.

May 27. DAVID BURBERRY, Newdigate, Surrey, wood-dealer.—CHARLES CHAPLIN, Sudbury, Suffolk, printer.—JAMES COBB, Preston, Lancashire, innkeeper.—ROBERT CRAIG, Brynmawr, Breconshire, draper.—WALTER LONG BOZZI GRANVILLE, Red Lion Square, agricultural implement maker.—RICHARD MOORE, Sun Tavern Fields, St. George's-in-the-East, and A-hchurch Villas, Hammersmith, commission-agent.—FREDERICK ROBARD, Croydon, Surrey, schoolmaster.—WILLIAM WATSON, Salisbury-court, City, licensed victualler.

BANKRUPTCIES ANNULLED.

May 9.—T. BOSSON, Newgate-market, meat-salesman.

May 15.—RICHARD ELLIS, Richmond-street, Soho, carpenter.

May 23.—T. BAGO, Aston, Warwickshire, publican.

May 24.—RICHARD JACKSON, Selby, Yorkshire, tanner.

MONEY MARKET.

The variations in the money-market have been too slight during the past month to call for any special remark. The natural re-action in the Railway market, consequent upon the speculation of the previous month, brought down prices, but they recovered towards the end of the month.

STOCKS.

	Highest.	Lowest.	Latest.
Three per Cent. Consols . . .	98	96 $\frac{1}{2}$	98
Three per Cent. Reduced . . .	97 $\frac{1}{2}$	95 $\frac{1}{2}$	97 $\frac{1}{2}$
Three and a quarter per Cents. .	98 $\frac{1}{2}$	96 $\frac{1}{2}$	98 $\frac{1}{2}$
Long Annuities, Jan. 1860 . . .	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	7 $\frac{1}{2}$
Bank Stock . . .	211 $\frac{1}{2}$	210	211 $\frac{1}{2}$
India Stock . . .	260 $\frac{1}{2}$	259	260 $\frac{1}{2}$
Exchequer Bills . . .	54s. prm.	44s. prm.	44s. prm.
India Bonds . . .	58s. prm.	49s. prm.	49s. prm.

FOREIGN FUNDS—LATEST PRICES.

Brazilian Bonds, 8 $\frac{1}{2}$	New York (1858) 5 per cent., 96
Chilian 6 per cent., 76 $\frac{1}{2}$	Peruvian 5 per cent., 82
Danish 3 per cent., 76 $\frac{1}{2}$	" (Deferred) 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ p. ct., 39 $\frac{1}{2}$
Dutch 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ pr. cent. 12 guild., 59 $\frac{1}{2}$	Portuguese 5 per cent., 89
French 3 per cent., f. c.	Russian 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., 99 $\frac{1}{2}$
" 5 " " f. c.	Spanish 5 per cent., acct. 19 $\frac{1}{2}$
Mexican, 5 per cent., 35	Venezuela Active, 33 $\frac{1}{2}$

Paid.	RAILWAYS.	Highest.	Lowest.	Latest.
100	Brighton and South Coast.	98	93	96
all	Blackwall	8 $\frac{1}{2}$	8	8 $\frac{1}{2}$
50	Caledonian	15 $\frac{1}{2}$	13 $\frac{1}{2}$	13 $\frac{1}{2}$
20	Eastern Counties	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	7
50	Edinburgh and Glasgow . . .	36	33	35 $\frac{1}{2}$
all	Great Northern	18 $\frac{1}{2}$	15	18 $\frac{1}{2}$
100	Great Western	89	86 $\frac{1}{2}$	88 $\frac{1}{2}$
50	Hull and Selby	102	101 $\frac{1}{2}$	102
100	Lancashire and Yorkshire . .	57 $\frac{1}{2}$	54 $\frac{1}{2}$	57 $\frac{1}{2}$
100	London & North Western . .	130 $\frac{1}{2}$	121 $\frac{1}{2}$	123 $\frac{1}{2}$
100	Midland	64 $\frac{1}{2}$	57 $\frac{1}{2}$	57 $\frac{1}{2}$
25	North British	10 $\frac{1}{2}$	8 $\frac{1}{2}$	8 $\frac{1}{2}$
30	South Eastern and Dover . .	28 $\frac{1}{2}$	24 $\frac{1}{2}$	24 $\frac{1}{2}$
100	South Western	91	81	84
25	York, Newc., and Berwick . .	22	20 $\frac{1}{2}$	20 $\frac{1}{2}$
50	York and North Midland . . .	27 $\frac{1}{2}$	23	24

FOREIGN RAILWAYS—LATEST PRICES.

Boulogne and Amiens, 9 $\frac{1}{2}$	Paris and Rouen, 24 $\frac{1}{2}$
East Indian, 16 $\frac{1}{2}$	Paris and Strasbourg, 10 $\frac{1}{2}$
Namur and Liege, 7 $\frac{1}{2}$	Rouen and Havre, 9 $\frac{1}{2}$
Northern of France, 14 $\frac{1}{2}$	Tours and Nantes, 5 $\frac{1}{2}$

CORN MARKET—LONDON WEEKLY AVERAGES.

Wheat, per qr., 38s. 10d.; Barley, 24s. 3d.; Oats, 18s. 1d.; Rye, 24s. 7d.; Beans, 27s. 5d.; Peas, 25s. 10d.; Flour (town made), delivered, 7s. to 42s.; American barrel of 280 lbs., 22s. to 23s.

PROVISIONS—LATEST WHOLESALE PRICES.

Bacon, per cwt., Waterford, 50s. to 54s.; Belfast, 44s. to 45s.	Hams, per cwt.—York or Cumberland, 60s. to 76s.; Irish, 68s.; Westphalia, 48s. to 51s.
Beef, per 8 lbs., mid. to prime, 2s. 2d. to 3s. 4d.	Mutton, per 8 lbs., mid. to prime, 3s. 4d. to 3s. 10d.
Butter, per cwt.—Carlow, 4th, 60s.; Waterford, 1st, 74s. to 76s.; Dutch Friesland, 71s. & 72s.; Limerick, 72s. to 74s.	Potatoes, per ton.—Kent and Essex Shaws, 60s. to 70s.; Kent and Essex Middling, 55s. to 70s.; Chats, 31s. to 36s.
Cheese, per cwt., Cheshire, 42s. to 70s.; Wiltshire, Double, 40s. to 53s.; Dutch, New Gouda, 29s.; American, 34s.	Pork, per cwt. 65s. to 67s. 6d.
Eggs, per 120, French, 4s. 3d. to 5s. 3d.	Veal, per 8 lbs., 3s. 2d. to 3s. 10d.

GROCERY—LATEST WHOLESALE PRICES.

Cocoa, per cwt. Ord. to good red Trinidad, 34s. to 64s.; Brazil, 26s. to 30s.	Sugar, per cwt.—Loaves brown, 48s. to 48s. 6d.; British West India, good grocery, 36s. to 42s.; Mauritius, brown, 27s. to 42s.; Brazil, do. 32s. to 44s.
Coffee, per cwt.—Good ord., native Ceylon, 39s. to 76s.; Mocha, 38s. to 70s.; Plantation, 44s. to 54s.; Java, 40s. to 52s.	Tea, per lb. (duty 2s. 1d.)—Ord. Congou, 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. to 1s. 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.; Souchow, common to fine, 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. to 2s. 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.; ord. to fine Hyson, 1s. 2d. to 3s. 9d.; Imperial, 1s. to 2s. 6d.
Rice, per cwt.—Bengal mid. to fine white, 8s. 6d. to 11s.; Madras, 7s. to 9s.; Patna, 11s. to 17s.	

Candles, per 12 lbs. 4s. 6d. to 5s. 6d. | Coals, per ton, 15s. 6d.

OILS.

Pale Seal, per 252 gals., 33l.	Palm, per ton, 29l. to 30l.
Sperm, 86l. to 87l.	Olive, Gallipoli, 41l.
Cod, 37l. 10s.	Linseed, 31l. 6s.

THE
HOUSEHOLD NARRATIVE
OF CURRENT EVENTS.

1851.]

FROM THE 29TH MAY TO THE 26TH JUNE.

[PRICE 2d.]

THE THREE KINGDOMS.

MORE than a million and a half of people have passed through the Great Exhibition during the last six weeks, yet it continues to be stoutly affirmed by not a few that for the last six weeks little or no business has been transacted by the London tradesmen. This is a mystery it would be difficult to solve; for even Colonel Sibthorp and Mr. Grantley Berkeley don't undertake to say that meat and drink are to be had at the Exhibition, or that Mr. Giblett of Bond Street has any alarming competition to fear from the proprietor of the stuffed animals of Wurtemberg. But if what the gallant Colonel and the member for West Gloucestershire *do* assert be true, and it is really possible for people to be poured into London by tens of thousands without spending a single shilling when they arrive, the prospect for trade just at present is more discouraging than ever. The gross receipts of railway traffic have increased during the last fortnight to the extent of some forty thousand pounds, and from this and other signs it seems manifest that the crowd of the carnival is only beginning.

Little actual progress has been made meanwhile in graver matters, yet what has been done in the past month is not without a certain interest. The law reformers begin to show themselves in earnest. The second Government bill for the reform of chancery is so clear an improvement on the first, that, by the time it reaches its third stage, it may have ripened into something admirable. Still retaining both the political and judicial functions of the chancellor, it yet effects such a separation of his duties while it guarantees him assistance in them, as will be manifestly for the public advantage. It will enable the appeal business of his court to be carried on without rendering absolutely indispensable the presence of the chancellor himself. It will render the suitors of that court, in a considerable degree, independent of the political fluctuations of party. The drawback, on the other hand, is the invasion of the principle of what Bentham calls single-seated justice, to which there cannot be a doubt that great advantages belong in respect of single attention and single responsibility. Much that is at present doubtful in the scheme, however, will probably right itself before the measure becomes law; and meanwhile Mr. Bethel, in promising that a bill will shortly be introduced for reforming the masters' offices, has pointed to the removal of a grievance by which the public will benefit probably more than in any other direction. In these offices it is that the great obstructions spring up. Here it is that proceedings become uncertain, ineffective, protracted, hopeless. It is hardly a fortnight since a case was reported of a suit which had begun thirty-six years ago, and in which a particular motion had been made thirty-four years ago, which has only come on to be argued within the last twelve days! Quite as a matter of course it seems to have been received. The counsel representing the unhappy parties to it "would be content to take an order for payment into court *on or before the last seal*." One can hardly imagine contentment to go beyond that. We do not think of asking whether the seal Cancellerian or the seal named in Revelations were intended; for who can doubt that in either case the learned gentleman would have been equally content? Such are the habits that Chancery engenders. It is the Sleepy Hollow of the old world in this nineteenth century. While everything around is in a constant course of progress, dissolution, reconstruction, *there* to this day nine-pins are quietly played "by odd-looking personages," just exactly as they have been played for several hundred years; and though human hopes and fortunes are the stake, nothing can equal the nonchalance with which the nine-pins are bowled down.

As we have said however, even there, amid those thunder-storms to the people outside amid which that "melancholy party of pleasure" has so long continued to enjoy its game, some glimmer of sunshine and hope begins to make itself perceptible. There has been, during the past month, a very remarkable meeting attended by not a few of the most thoughtful law reformers of the day, at which the question which involves almost every other question of reform in this department, was fairly put and argued. Why should one portion of our law be ticketed off and called Law, and another be labelled off and called Equity? Has it any logical meaning? Has it any practical utility? Would the absurdity be tolerated in any other field of human pursuit—that two courts should be set up, both called courts of justice, and both professing to have the same object, yet with modes of procedure in all respects contrasted, and with rules of evidence and investigation diametrically opposed? Can any so-called reform of the law be attempted with any hope of success, so long as one of these courts of justice is bound to decide upon certain facts in favour of a particular party, and the other court, sitting next door, and having precisely the same facts for judgment, is not less stringently bound to decide exactly the other way!

The Law Amendment Society has at length taken this matter in hand. For some months it has had before it the consideration of the New York code, in which a fusion of law and equity has within the last few years been accomplished; and it now states the result of the practical working of that measure in a report of very great ability. According to this report the change has been eminently successful. Eleven judges of the superior courts of the State of New York have expressed themselves strongly in favour of it. Its beneficial operation is also affirmed by a large majority of the most distinguished practitioners at the New York bar. Other states of the Union are adopting it with acclamation. The chief justices of Calcutta and Bombay, Sir Laurence Peel and Sir Erskine Perry, have expressed their approval of the code in terms to which their high reputation gives extraordinary weight. The council think themselves justified, therefore,

in reporting for a similar amalgamation in the English courts, and have pledged themselves to draw up the outline of a code of procedure for that purpose. Nor does it seem likely that the proceedings at this meeting will evaporate in mere speech-making or report-making. Mr. Bethel did not scruple to take part in them with a very decisive expression of his favourable opinion. Lord Campbell, not many days before the meeting took place, had remarked how lamentable was the necessity that so often barred the superior courts from giving a complete remedy to parties seeking aid from them. And Lord Brougham has already introduced to the House of Lords a bill for assimilating law and equity procedure in one important respect, by carrying into the superior courts the county court practice of admitting the testimony of parties to suits. Lord Cranworth and the Lord Chief Justice appear to be in favour of the principle of this bill.

The truth is, that the cause of Law Reform has received such irresistible impetus from the operation of those county courts, brief as it has been, that another term or two is likely to make law-reformers of all the barristers in Westminster Hall, will they will they. It is a sign of the times which all will have to read, that the late Lord Chief Justice of England, a man illustrious for all the qualities that Englishmen most revere and look up to, should have taken this occasion to send forth from his retirement into Westminster Hall a warning voice against longer indulgence in the fiction and verbiage ("those pets of English lawyers") which have hitherto prevented the establishment of a natural and intelligible course of legal practice. "I take the fact to be clear," says Lord Denman, "that the public decidedly prefers the county courts to the common law courts in Westminster Hall for the trial of causes. The proof of this fact, that the former tribunals swarm with suitors while the latter are almost deserted, involves another fact of a more general nature—the destitution of the bar, the ruin of many now in business, the disappointment of many more in their just expectations, and, finally, the annihilation of a most valuable class of society as it has existed for the advantage of the public. If the interest of the bar come in competition with that of the public, there cannot be one moment's hesitation as to which must be sacrificed. Neither that, nor any other set of men, has any vested right in misgovernment or maladministration; no privilege to defeat, or even delay for a single hour well-considered improvements." Does not this read like the handwriting on the wall? We really think so. The doom would seem at last to have gone forth; and "the sons of Uriah," formerly too strong for the most absolute and powerful sovereign that ever ruled the English Commonwealth, lie helpless now at the feet of our gentle Queen Victoria. "Can we expect a sane man," pursues Lord Denman "to resort to a court which refuses to hear him and his adversary, possibly the only two persons in the world who know the truth, and which makes him pay 20*l.* for admission into its precincts, while in another court, close at hand, and always sitting, he may state his own rights as he understands them, call his antagonist to disclose the whole merits of the disputed transaction, and, finally, recover his own at the one-twentieth part of the cost? The evil points out its own remedy. If we are right in our premises, and suitors keep aloof from courts of unimpeachable knowledge and integrity because they are exclusive and expensive, the conclusion is obvious. Make them open to receive information from all, and cheap enough to be acceptable to all, and the same amount of business will be found to flock thither as was seen there before this unexpected rivalry was created by the legislature."

That, in plain, forcible, uncompromising language, is the assertion of a principle of transcendent importance to the public. Nor do we anticipate, on the part of those now entrusted with power, any disposition to be slow in giving effect to it. When Lord John Russell brought in his first Chancery Reform bill he threw out some remarks that showed his thorough discernment of the pernicious fallacy which has so often urged that litigation would increase if justice were made too cheap. To suppose that the cost of proceedings ever reined in the demon of litigation is preposterous. The lawmaker who first used the argument simply showed that he was thinking of the rich man and forgetting the poor one, as lawmakers all through our history have unfortunately been much given to do. Give a rich man a spite to inflict, and a poor man a wrong to redress; and where a thousand pounds would not stay the ardent spirit eager for litigation, the poor soul in search of justice would find a thousand pence insurmountable.

It is now exactly twelve months (in our number for June, 1856) since we noticed the fact of "a curious question" having arisen in Dublin from the circumstance of a verdict being given in an action on a bill of exchange, "of which the effect is to affirm the validity of a bill already declared a forgery by an English jury, and which has consigned a money lender to ten years' transportation." At that time the case had not attracted any notice; but very soon attention was drawn to it, and it became manifest that the money lender under sentence in England must receive a pardon. Now observe in this respect the crying want of a reform in our modes of procedure. The man sentenced for a crime which a subsequent jury declares him not to have committed, remains nevertheless a transported felon for twelve months after the presumption of his innocence has been thus strongly raised; and it is not till after the law's delays have been exhausted, and the person whose signature was alleged to have been forged confesses its genuineness by paying the amount of the bill, that a pardon is issued from the Home Office. The circumstances of this case could hardly have passed with so little remark if the character of its victim had been less involved in suspicion. But it is overlooked that the injustice would have fallen not less heavily on a character the most spotless; and that where sentence has been passed for a crime which absolutely has not been committed, it is high time to dispense with the farce of a royal pardon, and in its place to substitute legal and legitimate means of reversing the conviction that should never have taken place. The absence of a court of appeal in criminal cases, which criminal lawyers of the widest experience have always most earnestly urged upon the legislature, is one of the gravest defects still waiting remedy. It is to be hoped that Lord Campbell's attention may be drawn to it when his admirable bill, now passing to its final stage in the House of Commons, shall have corrected other less grave omissions in the administration of the criminal law.

But if law reformers have all this work on their hands, and are setting about it more or less earnestly, what shall we say of the chances of reform in the Church, where fresh disorders are daily breaking forth, and no one seems to dream of any possible attempt at a remedy. Intelligent foreigners must smile to see what in this respect is passing around them, if such matters appear to them worthy of even so much attention. The Bishop of Exeter, backed by creeds and councils, cheers on his synod to flat revolt against the Church as by law and statute established; while the Archbishop of Canterbury stands by Prince Albert on the platform of the Gospel Propagation Society, as the illustrious prince holds forth "the gospel and the unfettered right of its use" as the sole inestimable safeguard of the protestant faith. Doctor Merle d'Aubigné,

the celebrated historian of the Reformation, being a visitor to the Great Exhibition, is permitted by Mr. Dale of St. Pancras to preach in French to a congregation of his countrymen, in one of the licensed episcopal chapels of that parish; whereupon the tractarian Mr. Hope charitably suggests that Doctor d'Aubigné has subjected himself to three months' imprisonment with hard labour in the House of Correction, for presuming to thump the cushions of an episcopal pulpit, and the Bishop of London is strenuously urged to put the law in force against the Genevan Doctor. Again, in the same parish, not many days after, one of the district churches witnesses a very different scene. No doctor from Geneva ascends the pulpit, but a young and ardent zealot from Cambridge, whose mission is to deliver the Church's "message to the poor," and who delivers it accordingly. He takes for his text that chapter of Luke which describes the fate of Dives and Lazarus, deduces from it the moral of what is called Christian socialism, attributes the miseries and vices of the poor to the injustice and arrogance of the rich, and warns society of the retribution sooner or later preparing for it. But hardly has the vehement denunciation been brought to a close, when the rector of the parish rises in his seat from beneath the pulpit, arrests the benediction about to be pronounced, and tells the congregation that the matter they have just heard is not only questionable in doctrine but pernicious in tendency and untrue in fact, and, looking sternly up at the enthusiastic preacher, solemnly rebukes him for having offered to the members of a Christian church exhortations of so dangerous a character. And so, "the two regularly ordained clergymen having taken a defiant look at each other, one down from the pulpit the other up from the reading-desk, the congregation were sent away in disgust and amazement to their homes." Truly a scene fraught with so much instruction, that it might be quite as well worth a debate in the House of Commons as the preamble to the Ecclesiastical Titles Bill.

That wearisome affair is at last approaching to its close, the Irish brigade who represent the Vatican having saved Lord John from defeat by voting on his side in the last division; and the extreme Roman Catholic newspapers are now full of eager exultation at the near prospect of having a law to snap their fingers at and violate. How far this may be done safely remains to be seen, but it appears tolerably certain that the experiment will be made. Meanwhile the same respectable organs of opinion indulge themselves with comments on the Great Exhibition, and matters connected with it, in the style most likely to be pleasing to their priestly patrons. One of them, describing the Queen's ball (which he states to have been given with the laudable intention of "doing honour to the great demonstration which the English nation is making in order to prove that it can do very well without God and His particular providence over it"), takes the liberty of reminding Her Majesty that "men were eating and drinking when the first drops of the deluge descended;" that "there were great riots in Sodom on the last night of its revels;" and that "Baltassar the Chaldean gave a great banquet to a thousand of his nobles, but before he recovered from his drunken fit he was in another world." The same polite writer "thanks Almighty God" for having inspired the Pope to denounce the godless colleges and defeat the administration of civil government in Ireland; and, remarking on a recent vote in the House of Commons which he not without shrewdness interprets as the opinion of the English constituencies on that papal rescript, and by which a small sum for the repairs of Maynooth College escaped with but a narrow majority of two, the pious man resigns himself with the air of a martyr to the prospect of those same constituencies, one day, consummating their guilt and wickedness by "robbing Maynooth of its entire annual grant, and turning the whole establishment adrift to depend for its support upon the people of Ireland, the Church of God, and the providence of the Almighty."

As our readers may perhaps remember, this was exactly what was anticipated in this 'Narrative' when it was first authoritatively announced that the uses to which Maynooth should be turned, were to be no other than the education of a body of men pledged in every possible way to obstruct all fair or conciliatory government in Ireland, and to make every Romish School and pulpit a vantage ground for defiance and insult to the Protestant faith and the English name. Some extracts have recently been published from the diary of the late Bishop Coleston, in the course of which he remarks that while the wrongs of the Irish Catholics have been in a progressive course of redress for the last sixty or seventy years, nevertheless in exact proportion to our good treatment has been their increased violence and rancour; and he characterises it as not a generous but a servile spirit "to behave worse in proportion as we behave better and kinder." If we wanted any direct illustration of this truth, the circumstances of the last ten years would abundantly supply it; and those who remember the conditions and assurances with which the bill for Catholic Emancipation was hailed and accompanied two and twenty years ago, will find it highly instructive to contrast what is now demanded by that section of our Catholic fellow-countrymen who side with the Romish priesthood. "For our part," it is frankly confessed by the trusted organ of Dr. Cullen, Dr. Wiseman, and the rest of the ultramontane faction, "we will never cease our struggle until every vestige of inequality is removed from the statute-book; until the coronation oath is so altered that the Monarch of these realms is as free as the humblest of her subjects to become a Catholic and profess the Catholic faith; until a Catholic barrister is free to become Lord Chancellor; until the insolent domination of the Establishment is broken to pieces for ever; and until nothing remains in the shape of a law or legal institution to entitle any human being, because calling himself a Protestant, to arrogate precedence over a Catholic who occupies the same station in society." Such is the grandiloquent programme of the new Roman Catholic agitation, bearing date the twenty-first of the present month, and which the poor modest Protestant can only hope and pray may turn out not quite so bad as it threatens. The "compromise" in the case of *Metairie and Wiseman* opportunely brings him a little comfort. He there perceives that when a Roman Catholic priest cannot get all he has set his heart upon, he is fain to be content with something less; and that, after solemnly protesting it to have been exclusively in the interest of the soul of the poor French teacher that he had interposed to devote seven thousand pounds of his savings to the charities of holy mother church, he can yet see the prudence of yielding to necessity, and surrendering no less than four of the abstracted seven thousand pounds for the chance of retaining the other three. An arrangement more scandalous than this, in so far as the priestly defendants are concerned, was probably never made in evasion of even the delays and perils of our English Chancery.

Other public incidents of any interest during the month have been few. The protectionist shipowners have been making Lord Stanley their mouthpiece for a complaint of the decline of commercial marine in consequence of the repeal of the navigation laws, but Lord Granville promptly met the complaint with a statement showing a largely increasing trade, a vast concourse of foreign shipping to the English harbours,

a large increase of British shipping compared with the returns of three years ago, and in particular a greatly augmented supply of ships of the highest amount of tonnage resulting from the unabated enterprise even of the very shipowners who had instructed Lord Stanley to complain. Smithfield market has received its finishing stroke in the House of Commons, and six months further grace has been at the same time very needlessly conceded to the corporation for the purpose of making up its mind whether or not it will undertake the management of the new market. A commission of inquiry has been instituted for the purpose of ascertaining whether the electors of St. Albans take bribes, which, by the mere force of precedent, may probably lead to a commission of inquiry next session into the truth of Doctor Cullen's avowal as to the earth's movement and the moon's diameter. Every body has been running away from service on the income-tax committee as from an unclean thing; and Mr. Disraeli is going to try to make all the fiscal arrangements of the free-trade government as temporary as the income-tax, if he can but get enough of the free-trading majority to help him, as on more than one occasion he has been able to do.

NARRATIVE OF PARLIAMENT AND POLITICS.

IN the HOUSE OF LORDS, on Monday, the 2d of June, LORD LYNCHURST referred to Lord John Russell's notice in the other house of his intention to move for leave to bring in a bill to improve the *Administration of Justice in the Court of Chancery*, and described the satisfactory working of Sir John Romilly's act for amending the proceedings of the Court of Chancery in Ireland. That measure substituted summary proceedings by petition for the ordinary proceedings by bill and answer; and it had given the greatest satisfaction to plaintiffs, to defendants, and to the court. Under such circumstances, he invited the Lord Chancellor to consider these results in connection with the measure intended to be introduced by the noble lord at the head of the government.—The LORD CHANCELLOR complained of being embarrassed by Lord Lynchurst's statements, and intimated that the house should be cautious in adopting them. At the same time he was glad his attention had been called to the subject, and he would make inquiries into it.—Lord LYNCHURST then asked the Lord Chancellor whether it was intended to pass over the labours of the criminal law commission, or to what extent their recommendations were likely to be adopted?—The LORD CHANCELLOR said he had heard nothing upon the subject, and he had no reason to believe it was the intention of the government to renew the commission.—Lord WHARFCLIFFE moved for papers relating to *Public Works and Internal Improvements in India*.—A debate took place, in which Lord Brougham, the Earl of Ellenborough, and the Earl of Harrowby took part, at the end of which the motion was agreed to.—The Earl of CARLISLE, in reply to a question, stated that the subject of the removal of the celebrated *Obelisk at Alexandria*, "*Cleopatra's Needle*," presented to George IV. by the late Pacha of Egypt, was under the consideration of government.

On Tuesday, June 3, the *Marriages (India) Bill* passed through committee *pro forma*. Several amendments were made, and the bill was ordered to be reprinted.—On the motion of Lord BROUGHAM, the *County Courts Extension (No. 2) Bill* was read the second time. It was explained that the object of the measure is to invest county courts with jurisdiction in bankruptcy.

On Friday, June 6, Lord CAMPELL, in answer to a question from Lord Brougham, expressed regret that the commissioners appointed to revise the rules of practice and pleadings in the *Courts of Common Law*, had not yet presented a report. Before any attempt could be made at improvement, the report of those learned persons ought to be received, and he trusted its presentation would not be further delayed.

The Earl of CARLISLE, in reply to a question from Lord Montagu, who wished to know why the practice of *Intramural Interment* was continued, stated that the Board of Health were still in communication with the cemetery companies on the subject, and that the negotiations involved financial operations of considerable magnitude.

The house then adjourned for Whitsuntide.

On Tuesday, June 17, Lord STANLEY presented a petition from the Shipowners' Association of Liverpool, complaining of the injurious effects that had followed the *Repeal of the Navigation Laws*. In advocating the

opinions expressed by the petitioners, he detailed a variety of incidents, and traced the course of commercial intercourse in various quarters of the world, to show that our merchants were subjected to unequal competition, our relaxations being met almost everywhere by hostile tariffs, and our vessels in some places prohibited from engaging in the most profitable branches of trade. He remarked that the remedy lay ready-made in the hands of the privy council, who were empowered under the act to reimpose duties on vessels belonging to states that had refused reciprocity, and that protection he considered it was now time to apply.—Earl GRANVILLE questioned the accuracy of the statements on both sides set forth in the petition. The shipowners, he believed, had not prospered through the navigation laws, and were not injured by their removal. Authentic returns showed that the business was extending, the tonnage of vessels employed in our commerce having increased, and proofs were given on every side that the distress complained of was, at all events, exceptional. He observed that Lord Stanley himself had abstained from following up his speech by any substantive motion, and had declined to afford any prospect to the shipowners that the repeal of the navigation laws could ever be reversed.—Lord HARDWICKE maintained that the proof of prosperity deduced from the increase in our shipping was illusory, since that of other countries had increased in larger proportion. He contended at much length on the justice and necessity of obtaining reciprocity from other countries or enacting it on our own parts.—Earl GREY believed that the shipowners were sufficiently good men of business not to persevere in a losing trade, and therefore saw in the increase of ship-building and employment an irrefragable proof that the trade was not in so bad a way as the petition affirmed. We had already obtained reciprocity from several foreign countries, and among others from the United States, though he admitted that the position and wealth of California gave the Americans many natural advantages over us in certain directions. As regarded France and Spain, which still retained their differential duties, he was convinced that any attempt to retaliate would inflict an injury on our own trade.—After some brief remarks from Lord COLCHESTER, the petition was ordered to lie on the table.

On Thursday, June 19, a conversation took place respecting the *Registration of Assurances Bill*, in which Lords Brougham and Campbell mentioned a pamphlet by Mr. Hazlitt on that subject in terms of great eulogy.

On Tuesday, the 24th, Lord REDESDALE announced his intention, on an early day, of moving an address to the Queen, praying her Majesty to reassemble the *Houses of Convocation*.

Lord ELLENBOROUGH detailed the circumstances that had attended the intercourse of the Hindoo merchant, Jotee Pershaud, and the Indian government. The treatment experienced by that gentleman was, he contended, unjust and arbitrary. The company, instead of paying their debts, had laid a criminal charge against their creditor. Observing in somewhat strong terms upon the conduct of the authorities in India throughout the whole course of the affair, the noble lord concluded by moving for the production of certain papers connected with the subject.—Lord BROUGHAM defended the East India Company, by giving a widely different version of the circumstances in question, and contended that the facts, which he derived from the best authorities, fully

justified the course pursued by the local government towards Jotee Pershad. The trial referred to was, he believed, most impartially conducted. As for the papers demanded, he had no objection to their being produced as soon as they were ready.

The papers were ultimately ordered to be laid on the table.

In the HOUSE OF COMMONS on Thursday, May 29th, the adjourned debate on the *Ceylon question* was resumed. Sir J. W. HOGG defended the conduct of Lord Torrington, contending that not only the proclamation of martial law, but its continuance, was justified by the circumstances of the case.—Sir F. THESIGER entered at great length into the whole history of the insurrection, showing that the taxes hastily imposed, and as hastily repealed afterwards, were the cause of the disturbances; that these were not of an aggravated character, the rioters never having made head against the troops; that the proclamation of martial-law was by no means proved to have been necessary; that after it was proclaimed there was a total absence of directions to insure its being carried out with fairness and equity; that confiscation formed part of the system adopted under its operation; that Mr. Selby had opposed those illegal proceedings, and that his conduct had been placed in a false light before Earl Grey in Lord Torrington's despatches: that more especially the confiscation and other proceedings of Captain Watson at Matelle had been characterised by the greatest irregularity; that martial law had been continued long after the necessity for it had ceased, and even after the capture of the Pretender, the real object being to continue it until an act of indemnity for Lord Torrington should have been passed; that so far from the proceedings of the courts-martial having been fair and regular, they had been conducted by young and inexperienced officers, and men had been convicted, sentenced, and executed on the spot, against whom there was not a tittle of evidence to warrant their conviction; that Lord Torrington had only most reluctantly consented, upon the representation of Sir A. Oliphant, to the commutation of the sentence of the seventeen individuals capitally convicted by the Civil Court; which latter circumstance, Sir F. Thesiger observed, might assist them in appreciating the different accounts given of the scene which took place when Mr. Selby applied for a delay in the execution of the priest. Sir F. Thesiger commented, in strong terms, on the conduct of Earl Grey in expressing his entire belief of Lord Torrington's version, and yet sending back to the colony Mr. Selby, who, if Earl Grey believed that version to be true, was, in the estimation of the noble Earl, a convicted libeller; and concluded by making a powerful appeal to the house not to compromise, by its decision, the character of this nation for honour and humanity.—Mr. HAWES denied that any understanding, as to the real of Lord Torrington, had preceded the report of the committee. He reduced the main question into two heads—first, whether the state of the island justified the proclamation of martial law; and secondly, whether any undue severity had been used in carrying that law into execution. He argued at great length in support of the affirmative of the former, and the negative of the latter of these two propositions. With regard to Earl Grey's approbation of Lord Torrington's conduct, Mr. Hawes contended that it was a mere matter of course, in conformity with the invariable rule of the office when a colony was reported in a state of rebellion, and did not imply approbation of all the acts done; and after referring to the addresses presented to Lord Torrington on his leaving the colony, to which he attached great importance, he called upon the house to reject the resolutions.—Mr. GLADSTONE began by condemning strongly the personalities towards absent persons, of which the defenders of Lord Torrington had been guilty. With regard to the main question, he denied that the object of the resolution was to cast censure on Lord Torrington; their object was to bring the conduct of her Majesty's government under discussion, and to vindicate the high and sacred principles on which the government of mankind ought to be carried on, which were involved in this case. The main issue to be tried was, whether there

had been in this case a judicious and wise, or an unwise and wanton administration of the highest and most solemn prerogative of government, which consisted in taking into its own hands the work of the Creator, and determining when the span of human existence shall be brought to a close. After adverting to the causes of dissatisfaction which had existed in Ceylon, and which accounted for, though they did not justify the rebellion, Mr. Gladstone proceeded to show that there was no real necessity for continuing martial-law for the space of three months, and that in the executions which had taken place there had been an unnecessary effusion of human blood, and, in conclusion, he appealed to the house to vindicate by their vote the sacredness of freedom and of human life.—The ATTORNEY-GENERAL denied that the house was competent to come to a decision upon the question different from that at which the committee had arrived, as there were few honourable members who had waded through the whole of the evidence contained in the blue books. He contended that the facts had been grossly exaggerated; and, after pleading the circumstances of the colony in justification of Lord Torrington's conduct, expressed a hope that national injustice would not a second time be connected with the name of Byng.—Lord JOHN RUSSELL dwelt on the disordered state in which Lord Torrington found the colony, and on the generally beneficial character of his government, which had been conducted throughout under the advice of the executive council. In reference to the approbation of Lord Torrington's conduct expressed by Earl Grey, the noble lord read an extract from one of the despatches, in which that approbation was qualified by recommendations to moderation and clemency; and after stating his belief that it would be dangerous to intimidate governors placed in positions of extreme difficulty by the prospect of votes of censure from the House of Commons, declared that in his opinion it was the duty of a government to support a governor who acted with the best of intentions, and that a government which should, under such circumstances, sacrifice a governor, would at the same time sacrifice the colonies, and incur the deserved reprobation of the people of England.—Mr. DISRAELI supported the resolutions.—Mr. Baillie briefly replied; and the resolutions were negatived by 182 to 202.

On Friday, May 30th, in the committee on the *Ecclesiastical Titles Bill*, the question, that Clause I. stand part of the bill, gave rise to a debate in which Sir James Graham, the Attorney-General, Mr. Hatchell the Attorney-General for Ireland, and Lord John Russell, took part. On a division, the question that the first clause stand part of the bill, was carried by 244 to 62.

Mr. DISRAELI called for information from the government respecting the measures taken to obtain the release of *Lieutenant Wyburd*, an English gentleman, who was sent, in 1835, on a diplomatic mission from Persia to the Khan of Khyva, but was seized on his journey by the Ameer of Bokhara, and kept in captivity ever since. Answers were given by Mr. J. E. Elliot and Sir J. W. Hogg, from which it appeared that the authorities in India had made various attempts to obtain Lieutenant Wyburd's release, but hitherto without success, owing to great local difficulties, and small hopes were held out of a favourable result.

On Monday, June 2d, Mr. HUME having proposed to nominate the Select Committee on the *Income-Tax*, Mr. FRESHFIELD opposed the nomination, and moved that the order be discharged. A discussion took place, which terminated in a division of 193 to 94 in favour of the committee.

In committee on the *Ecclesiastical Titles Bill*, an amendment by Mr. Walpole was withdrawn, and amendments by Mr. McCullagh and Mr. Moore were negatived by large majorities.

There was no House on Tuesday, the 3d. This circumstance led to some conversation on the following evening. Sir J. WALMSLEY complained of the distance of the committee-rooms from the house, which had prevented his arrival in time at the door.—Sir R. H. INGLIS suggested the use of the electric telegraph, to communicate between the house and the committee-rooms.—Mr. W. WILLIAMS said he had found no fewer than fifty members at the door at four o'clock, and, in endeavour-

ing to make his way through them, in order to assist in forming a house, had had his coat nearly torn off his back.

On Wednesday, the 4th, Lord MELGUND moved the second reading of the *School Establishment* (Scotland) Bill. He contended that the means of education in Scotland had not kept pace with the increase of population, and were admitted on all hands to be at present very deficient. The number of children between the ages of five and fifteen was 600,000; of these it was calculated that not more than 200,000 were educated by the Established and Free Churches, and 100,000 by other denominations, leaving 300,000 without any means of instruction. This bill provided for the establishment of schools for secular, or for combined secular and religious instruction, supported by local rates, and subject to local management, no religious test being required from the schoolmasters.—Mr. F. MACKENZIE was opposed to the subversion of the present system of education in Scotland, and moved as an amendment that the bill be read a second time that day six months.—Mr. Hume supported, and Mr. C. Bruce opposed the bill.

—The LORD ADVOCATE said he should give the measure his most cordial support, as he was satisfied of the absolute necessity of increasing the means of education in Scotland. If the scheme proposed excluded religious instruction, he should oppose it to the utmost; but there was nothing in the bill to preclude the conjunction of religious and secular instruction, should this be the wish of the rate-payers.—Sir R. H. INGLIS thought it incumbent on the government to lend the weight of their influence to the rejection of this measure. It was the right of the Established Church of Scotland to superintend the religious education of the people, and history showed how well she had discharged the duty.

—Mr. Macgregor and Mr. Cowan supported the bill, and Mr. Charteris the amendment.—Lord J. RUSSELL could not see in this bill any stipulations which would have the effect of restricting the instruction given to secular knowledge, and could not, therefore, assent to the request made by the hon. baronet, that the government should oppose it. Considering the religious feeling which pervaded the mass of the Scottish people, he thought there would be few instances in which there would not be an anxiety to conjoin religious with secular instruction.—Sir G. Clerk and Mr. F. Scott supported the amendment.—After a reply from Lord Melgund, the house divided, and rejected the bill by 137 to 124.

On Thursday, the 5th, Sir G. GREY moved the second reading of the *Metropolis Water Bill*, Mr. MOFFATT moved the second reading that day six months. He contended that the bill would do no good, while it would perpetuate a huge monopoly and impose a heavy charge on the metropolis.—Sir B. Hall and Mr. W. Williams opposed the bill on similar grounds.—Sir G. Grey said that the principle of this bill was to substitute for different boards of management irresponsible and uncontrolled, one combined management, under certain restrictions and subject to the control of parliament and government. He then entered into a general defence of the provisions of the bill, replying to objections, and in conclusion asked the house to assent to the second reading, in order that the bill might be referred to a select committee, where the whole of the details might be thoroughly sifted.—Sir J. JOHNSTONE, on behalf of the water companies, objected to the proposed amalgamation, and suggested that inquiry should precede legislation; that a committee should be appointed to consider all matters connected with the water supply of London.—Mr. MOWATT strongly opposed the bill, objecting to its principle, as well as to its monstrous clauses, and he explained the provisions of a bill he had introduced, the main features of which were that it proposed to divide the metropolis into seventeen districts, which would choose four commissioners, who, with four nominated by the corporation of London and four by the government, should constitute a commission, with power to nominate an executive committee, not exceeding five, for carrying into effect the provisions of the act, and to provide funds for constructing new machinery and plant, by rates not exceeding 3d. in the pound upon rateable property. The bill was supported by Sir W. Clay, and opposed by Lord Ebrington, Mr. Wakley, and Sir

De L. Evans. On a division the second reading was carried by 95 to 79.

A resolution against the *Adulteration of Coffee with Chicory* was moved by Sir T. BARING, and, after some discussion, was negatived by 94 to 89.

On Friday, the 6th, in committee on the *Ecclesiastical Titles Bill*, a number of amendments made by Mr. Reynolds, Sir H. Willoughby, Colonel Sibthorp, and Sir F. Thesiger, were discussed, and negatived on divisions.

The house afterwards went into committee on Lord Naas's resolutions regarding *Home-made Spirits in Bond*. The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER moved that the chairman do leave the chair.—The committee divided—for the motion, 123; against it, 140: majority against ministers, 17.—The resolutions were then agreed to.—The house then adjourned for Whitsuntide, to Thursday, the 12th.

On that day the house resumed its sittings.—Mr. ANSTAY moved, by way of amendment, a resolution condemnatory of the conduct of Sir W. Denison, Lieut.-Governor of Van Diemen's Land, in *Revoking the tickets of leave held by Messrs. M'Manus, O'Doherty, and O'Donohue*.—Sir G. GREY said, all the information of which the government was in possession relating to this subject was contained in a despatch from Sir W. Denison, dated 14th January, 1851, which was upon the table of the house, whence it appeared that these prisoners, who were convicted of very grave offences, had been indulged with tickets of leave, subject to conditions; that they had, however, acted in direct disobedience of the regulations, and, under the circumstances, he hardly believed, he said, that the house would agree to a vote of censure upon Sir W. Denison.—Mr. Hume and Colonel Dunne recommended Mr. Anstey to withdraw his motion, which, after a few remarks by Sir L. O'Brien, he consented to do.

The house then went into committee of supply upon the *Navy Estimates*, when certain votes were agreed to, after a very long discussion, in the course of which the plan proposed by the Admiralty, and which was developed by Sir F. Baring, with reference to retired flag and other officers, was much considered. The Chairman having been ordered to report progress, the house resumed, when the petty sessions (Ireland) bill, and the collection of fines, &c. (Ireland) bill were severally read a second time.—The British white herring fishery bill was read a third time and passed.—On the motion of Mr. J. BELL, the house resolved itself into a committee on the qualifications of pharmaceutical chemists, and a bill was ordered to be brought in to regulate the same.

On Friday, June 13th, Lord J. RUSSELL moved for leave to bring in a bill to improve the administration of justice in the *Court of Chancery* and the *Judicial Committee of the Privy Council*. The noble lord referred to the measure he had produced a few weeks back in which it was proposed that the Master of the Rolls and one of the common law judges should sit to assist the Chancellor; but this was objected to, as tending to the delay of justice in the Rolls Court. The present bill provided for the appointment of two new judges as judges of appeal, who should sit in the Court of Chancery as assessors to the Lord Chancellor, when he was able to be present, and without him when he was unable to give his attendance. The only objection he could anticipate to this plan was, that it would greatly increase the judicial staff; but he was not apprehensive that great weight would be attached to it by those who considered the great increase which had taken place in the business of the Court of Chancery. It appeared, from a return presented to the other house, that from November, 1850, to May, 1851, the total number of matters disposed of by the Court of Chancery, in all its branches, was 5207. The bill also empowered one judge of appeal to sit and dispose of the business in ease of the absence of the other. He felt that in these times, when reforms of the law were so eagerly looked for, it was desirable that the Lord Chancellor should be enabled to give his mature and deliberate attention to subjects of this kind. He had stated on a former occasion, that he proposed that the Lord Chancellor should receive 10,000*l.* a year, instead of 14,000*l.*, with the same retiring pension, and that the Master of the Rolls should

have 6000*l.* instead of 7000*l.* a year. He proposed that the two new judges should be on the same footing with respect to salary as the Master of the Rolls, each receiving 6000*l.* a year. The increased expense would thus be 12,000*l.* with a saving on the other hand of 5000*l.* He regarded it as impossible, with benefit to the public, that the Lord Chancellor should continue to perform the whole of his present duties, and anticipated that the result of the change would be advantageous, both as regarded the Court of Chancery and the general business of the country. He proposed that the new judges should be members of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council, and that three, instead of four, should be a quorum of that tribunal, hoping thus to obviate the difficulties which had been experienced under its present constitution.—Mr. J. STUART thought they had arrived at a period of the session when it was impossible that this measure could receive such a degree of consideration as would enable them to pass it. The Court of Chancery had been, for the last twelvemonth, in a peculiar and extraordinary state, and it was to be wished that time had been given to the judges to acquire habits of transacting business, as well as to others to accommodate themselves to them. It was worthy of consideration whether a great portion of the present business of the court could not be conveniently and properly transferred to other courts, where the judges complained of want of business.—Mr. BETHELL earnestly hoped the house would not think it too late to entertain a measure of so much importance during the present session. The bill provided effectually for the relief of the appellate tribunal, in which it was impossible that business could be despatched with speed and certainty whilst there was but one judge, who was unable to attend regularly. Another advantage was the doing away with appeals from one single mind to another single mind.—Mr. WALPOLE thought the bill would effect a great improvement on the present system, and should most willingly give it his cordial support.—After a discussion, in which Mr. Ellice, Mr. Horsman, Mr. R. Palmer, Mr. Henley, the Solicitor-General, Sir H. Willoughby, the Attorney-General, Mr. Hume, Mr. J. Evans, and Mr. Mullings, took part, the motion was agreed to.

On the motion of Lord J. RUSSELL, leave was also given to bring in a bill to regulate the salaries of the *Chief Justice of the Court of Queen's Bench*, and the *Chief Justice of the Court of Common Pleas*.

Sir L. O'BRIEN called the attention of the house to a petition presented from the late guardians of the *Ennistymon Union* (in Clare), and moved that a select committee be appointed to inquire into the causes assigned for their dismissal, and the administration of the affairs of the union.—Sir W. SOMERVILLE opposed the motion, on the ground that the responsibility of the Poor Law Commissioners had been properly exercised in the case.—After a few words from several hon. members, the motion was negatived, and the house went into committee of supply.—The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER moved a grant of 300,000*l.* for the purpose of defraying the expenses of the Kaffir war, over and above the ordinary charge of the army and ordnance departments. The original estimate had been for a sum of 400,000*l.*, but he was led to believe that the sum he proposed would be adequate. There were 30,000 men receiving rations or allowances in the month of April, but from the strict regulations for enforcing economy which the Governor had made in the commissariat department, the profuse expenditure of the former war would be avoided, and there was reason to conclude that the amount needed up to the end of July would not exceed 212,000*l.*—Mr. ADDERLEY thought the Chancellor of the Exchequer drew far more satisfactory conclusions than there was any ground for. The experience of the former war showed that unbounded speculation had prevailed. If the Cape had its constitution, they would hear no more of the expenses of the war; if it had not its constitution, the house would probably be called on for a much larger sum. The hon. gentleman having detailed the grievances of the colonists in respect to the withholding a constitution, maintained that the last despatches from the seat of war showed that there was no prospect of its being terminated for

months, and that the immediate grant of a constitution was urgently necessary.—Lord J. RUSSELL said there was no reason at all to suppose that if a constitution were granted to the colonists they would undertake to defray the expenses of the Kaffir war; indeed, the language held by many would lead to a different conclusion. A constitution had already been sent out, but the colonists had disagreed as to the details of the plan, and it therefore fell to the ground. Government was quite prepared to give them a constitution whenever circumstances allowed, but it was impossible during the absence of the Governor.—Mr. HUME contended that the present war had been caused by the oppressions exercised on the native tribes. He objected to giving this money as encouraging robbery, and aggression.—Mr. HAWES defended the policy of the Government, and contended that the war was just and unprovoked.—Mr. V. Smith, Mr. Bright, Mr. Labouchere, and others, having addressed the committee, the vote was agreed to.

On Monday, June 16th, Mr. J. STUART inquired whether it was the intention of the government to suspend the proceedings of the *University Commission* until a decision should be pronounced by the proper tribunal on the petition presented to her Majesty in council by the University of Oxford, complaining of the illegality of the commission.—Lord J. RUSSELL stated that the Government had no such intention.

On the motion that the *Customs Bill* be read a second time, Mr. DISRAELI intimated that he should propose an amendment to the motion for going into committee on this bill. The house having limited the income tax to one year only, it was obvious that the country was placed in a different position as regarded its financial policy from that in which it stood when the Chancellor of the Exchequer brought forward his budget. He thought it right, therefore, that the house should consider whether, with so large a portion of the revenue granted only provisionally, it would be advisable to abandon other sources of revenue. If the committee were fixed for Monday, he would communicate the terms of his amendment on an intervening day.—The bill was read a second time, and ordered to be committed on Monday—the day for the discussion of the amendment to be fixed in the interim.

The house then went into a committee of supply.—On the vote of 23,239*l.* for public buildings in Ireland being proposed, Mr. SPOONER moved, as an amendment, to reduce the amount by the sum of 1200*l.* 10*s.*, set apart for the *Repairs of the Maynooth College Buildings*.—After some discussion, the committee divided, when there appeared—for the amendment, 119; against it, 121; majority against, 2.

On Tuesday, June 17, the report from the select committee upon the petitions of Messrs. Bradford and Strutt, relative to the *Late Aylesbury Election Petition*, was brought up for consideration. The report stated that the name of Thomas Hughes Bradford had been improperly fixed to that petition by two individuals, named Strutt and Cunningham, who had thereby been guilty of a breach of privilege.—The ATTORNEY-GENERAL moved that the report be adopted, and the parties in question taken into custody by the Sergeant-at-Arms. This was done accordingly, and the two individuals were brought up to the bar, when they received a reprimand from the Speaker, and were then ordered to be discharged on the payment of the customary fees.

Mr. SPOONER moved that *Henry Edwards*, who had been nine weeks in custody for offences against the privileges of the house, in connexion with the St. Alban's election, should be this day brought up to the bar and discharged. Mr. Hume and the Attorney-General briefly contended that the motion was premature.—The house divided—for the motion, 4; against, 133; majority against, 129.

Mr. BASS moved a resolution, declaring that one half of the existing *Tax on Malt* should be repealed on and after the 10th of October, 1852. He contended that the reduction of this duty would relieve the producer of barley and the consumer of beer without entailing any serious loss to the exchequer. After some observations from different members, the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER reminded the house that they had already

discussed and negated by a large majority a proposition for the total repeal of the malt duty, and submitted that the reasons then adduced ought to be valid against the present motion. He further remarked upon the inconsistencies exhibited in the conduct of members who one day denounced the income tax as the worst of imposts, and a few hours afterwards supported a proposition that would render it perpetual, by annihilating or curtailing a source of revenue producing more than five millions annually.—Mr. Brotherton objected to every scheme that could encourage the consumption of an intoxicating fluid.—The house divided—for the motion, 31; against, 76; majority against, 45.

The subject of *International Arbitration* was then introduced by Mr. COBDEN, who moved that an address be presented to the Queen, praying her Majesty to direct the foreign secretary to communicate with the French government, and endeavour to prevent in future the rivalry of warlike preparations, and obtain, if possible, a mutual reduction of the armaments. Limiting his suggested reductions to the naval force and fortifications, and admitting that the armies were necessarily kept up for police purposes, the hon. member insisted that our existing navy was far larger than was required for the protection of commerce. The presumed necessity for maintaining so large a force was self-created, and grew out of the irritating policy we pursued towards France, retorted again by France upon ourselves. Each country alternately alarmed its neighbour by the extension of its armaments and military works, and thus both were frightened into enormous preparations and expenses. It was a neck-and-neck race of extravagant folly. History already afforded us a pattern for his suggested remedy. In 1817 a convention was entered into between England and America, limiting and practically removing altogether, the armed force severally maintained on the frontier lakes of Canada. This example might be followed with regard to France and other neighbours. Every invention of science, every improvement in communication and extension of commerce, tended to obtain and secure peace; and he enjoined the government to act up to the spirit of the age.—Lord PALMERSTON acknowledged the just principles of Mr. Cobden, and shared in his aspirations for peace. He nevertheless differed in his appreciation of the best means of securing that happy result. He objected to the resolution, that it recommended England to disarm before we were sure that other states would follow the example. Intercourse had increased, prejudices were shaken, and the old prepossessions of enmity and rivalry had given way to juster feelings; nevertheless, he still considered that the best way of assuring ourselves of peace was to continue to be prepared for war. Instancing the vast sums spent upon the fortification of Paris as a test of public opinion in that country in favour of defensive preparations, Lord Palmerston doubted whether any negotiations could induce the French to diminish their military establishments. The present motion might, however, be considered as a tender of friendship towards France, and he hoped that it would be so felt, and not forced to a division, when the votes given on either side would involve much danger of misinterpretation. Rejoicing in the pacific tokens and tendency at present manifesting themselves, among which he assigned a high place to the Industrial Exhibition, the noble lord pronounced for himself and colleagues an emphatic declaration that they were and would be actively interested in suppressing the outbreak of war, not only between this country, but between every country, and the rest of the world.—Mr. ROEBUCK drew a wide distinction between the readiness to fight, if attacked, and a perpetual existence in military harness. The resolution now proposed would place us in the first-mentioned position, and with a fervent appeal to all the principles and sentiments of social progress, he called on the house to adopt it.—Mr. MILNER GIBSON propounded the maxim that every warlike armament was not merely an utter waste, but an unmitigated moral evil. Experience showed that France and England had entered upon a rivalry of increase in their respective establishments, and why should they not continue to be rivals in reduction, if the example were set on our side?—Sir H. Verney, Mr. Brotherton, Mr.

Hume, Sir H. Inglis, Mr. Gooch, and Mr. Lovden, having spoken, Mr. COBDEN consented to withdraw his resolution, trusting that the discussion it had elicited might produce a good effect, and that the foreign secretary would carry out in practice the sentiments he had expressed in his speech.—The motion was then withdrawn by consent.

Mr. HUME moved an address to the crown to cancel the patent now granted to the Queen's printers, conferring a *Monopoly of Printing Bibles and Prayer-Books* in England and Ireland.—The motion was seconded by Mr. Cowan, and opposed by Sir G. Grey, who observed that the patents in question could not be revoked, except by an act of parliament.—Sir H. Inglis also opposed the motion.—The resolution was negated without a division.

On Wednesday, June 18th, the adjourned debate on the *Sunday Trading Prevention Bill* was resumed by Mr. WILLIAMS, who advocated the measure.—Mr. ROEBUCK examined the provisions of the bill, which he contended were worth no more than so much waste paper.—Mr. SPOONER approved of the principle of the bill, but apprehended that it would give rise to a great amount of litigation, whilst it would legalise the sale of more articles than it prohibited.—Sir W. CLAY supported the bill as likely to exercise a beneficial effect on the morals of the working classes, and in accordance with the public opinion of the metropolis.—Mr. W. J. Fox opposed the bill as a measure founded on false principles, and certain to be partial in its operation, inasmuch as it struck only at shopkeepers and petty hucksters, whilst leaving other kinds of labour untouched.—Sir G. GREY would support any measure that was well framed and likely to be effective, but could see no prospect of attaining the end in view by the present bill. He believed it must be left to the good feeling of the people to discourage Sunday trading so as to make the day really one of rest.—Sir B. HALL could not consent to any legislation for the metropolis which did not extend to the whole country.—Mr. Hindley supported the bill.—Mr. T. DUNCOMBE said he would give the bill the opposition he had uniformly given to similar proposals since the days of Sir A. Agnew. He denied that the opinion of the working classes was favourable to it.—After a few words from Mr. Trelawny and Mr. Alcock, the house divided, and rejected the motion by 77 to 42.—The bill was consequently lost.—The house then went into committee on the *Landlord and Tenant Bill*, on the clauses of which several divisions took place.—The bill then went through committee.

On Thursday, June 19th, on the order for going into committee on the bill for the *Removal of Smithfield Market*, Sir J. DUKE urged the government to abandon the measure for the present session, to afford the corporation of London an opportunity to enlarge the market and remove all existing grounds of complaint, and moved that the bill be committed that day six months.—In the desultory discussion to which this motion led, Mr. C. LEWIS stated that it was not intended that the commissioners appointed under the bill should be paid, nor that any grant of public money should be asked for the erection of the new market, it being calculated that the tolls, which were moderate, would be amply sufficient.—Sir J. Duke's motion was negated by 64 against 26, and the house went into committee upon the bill.

Mr. HEYWOOD moved a resolution, that the house should resolve itself into a committee to consider the *Religious Tests in the Universities of Oxford, Cambridge, and Dublin*. These tests, he observed, were originally introduced in the English colleges, with a view more to the clergy than the laity, when the colleges were ecclesiastical schools; but theology had ceased to be the end of studies there, a large body of the students being laymen. He specified examples in all the three universities wherein religious tests were objectionable upon the face of them. If the house went into committee upon these tests, among the resolutions he should propose would be one with reference to subscription to the three articles contained in the 36th Canon. He urged the motion upon the consideration of the house, as calculated to benefit not only the laity, but the Church of England herself.—Mr. EWART seconded the motion in no hostile

spirit towards the universities, but from a desire to throw open their portals as wide as possible, and to make them, not monastic or narrow, but once more national institutions.—Mr. CAMPBELL, after some remarks upon the abstract question of religious tests, observed that, unless some great emergency arose, reform in this matter would be more happily and more harmoniously effected by the internal agency of the universities themselves.—Lord J. RUSSELL stated very shortly his view of this motion. Referring to a speech of Lord Stanley, he expressed his concurrence with the opinion of that noble lord, that there was a distinction between admitting persons to the universities for study, and allowing them afterwards to become part of the governing body, a concession which would introduce an element of confusion into the discipline of the university. He was a cordial friend to the former object, but he was afraid that the motion went to the latter, and he could not assent to it.—Mr. M. GIBSON thought it most inconsistent to exclude dissenters by religious tests from the universities, where, it was said, they would receive the fittest education for those high offices they were allowed to fill. Apart from this, as a churchman, he objected to a system which required youths of sixteen to give a blind subscription to the thirty-nine articles, containing disputed propositions in theology. The house being counted at the requisition of a member, and only thirty-eight members being present, an adjournment took place.

On Friday, June 20th, the house went into committee on the *Ecclesiastical Titles Bill*.—Mr. MONSELL moved the insertion of the following words at the end of the second clause: "Provided always, that nothing in this act contained shall be construed to interfere with or in any manner to restrict the free action of the Roman Catholic church in the United Kingdom in matters of a spiritual nature." After a short conversation the committee divided, and the proviso was negatived by 160 to 42. The committee next divided on the question that the clause stand part of the bill.—For the clause 150; against it, 35; majority in favour, 115.—In the third clause, Mr. S. CRAWFORD moved the following amendment: "To expunge all the words after the word 'place,' and to insert the following words: 'used as the designation of office in such church, or to the assumption or use of the title of archbishop, bishop, or dean, taken by any person solely as the designation of his office, for the government of any voluntary church according to its rules and usages, and not claiming or assuming to have by law, in respect of such title or jurisdiction, authority, or pre-eminence in the United Kingdom.'"—Sir G. GREY opposed the amendment as ambiguous in construction, either nugatory, or neutralising in effect all the provisions of the bill. The committee divided, and the amendment was negatived by 118 to 33. Clause 3 was then ordered to stand part of the bill.—Mr. S. CRAWFORD then moved a clause enacting that the bill shall not extend to Ireland.—The SOLICITOR-GENERAL opposed the clause, as laying the bill open to all the charges of inconsistency, discrepancy, and confusion which had been brought against it. He looked in vain for any principle on which the bill could be rested that was not equally applicable to both kingdoms.—After a discussion, in which Mr. Roche, Mr. G. H. Cavendish, Mr. H. Drummond, Mr. Anstey, and others took part, Lord J. RUSSELL said, if the bill was to proceed at all, he could see no good reason why it should not apply to Ireland as well as to England. It would be ridiculous to allow the prerogative of the crown to be invaded in Ireland, whilst they took safeguards against aggression in England.—Mr. REYNOLDS declared that, if he were a Roman Catholic bishop, he would not allow twenty-four hours to elapse before he incurred the highest penalties of the bill. He warned ministers that they were sowing the seeds of discord and disunion in Ireland, and alluded to the effects likely to be produced by the Catholic Defence Association.—Mr. J. O'CONNELL would not condescend to accept the exemption of Ireland.—Mr. CAMPBELL defended the clause proposed, arguing that the bill, in its present shape, virtually violated the compact of 1829, and that the efforts to vindicate Protestantism would gain nothing by the inclusion of Ireland in the bill.—The committee divided.—For the clause, 60; against it,

255: majority against, 195.—Sir R. INGLIS moved a long clause in substance prohibiting any minister or servant of the crown in this country, or any colonial governor in its dependencies, from granting any rank or precedence in respect of Roman Catholic ecclesiastical offices, except in cases for which provision may have been made by treaty.—Lord J. RUSSELL opposed it as unintelligible, and tending to confusion.—The committee divided.—For the clause, 121; against it, 166: majority against, 45.

On Monday, the 23rd, the house having again gone into committee on the *Ecclesiastical Titles Assumption Bill*, Mr. WALPOLE moved, as an amendment of the preamble, after the word "Whereas," to insert words declaring the entire independence of this kingdom of any jurisdiction or authority of any foreign prince, prelate, or potentate, and that the Bishop of Rome had by a certain brief or rescript recently pretended to constitute within this realm, according to the common rules of the church of Rome, a hierarchy of bishops named from sees and with titles derived from places belonging to the Crown of England. One of his reasons for proposing this amendment was, that some had supposed there was a considerable ambiguity in the declaratory clause of the bill, and if such ambiguity existed it should be cleared up. But his principal object was to remedy a defect in the bill, which, though it avoided the particular brief of the 29th of September, 1850, did not prevent a repetition of the act, and afforded no guarantee that the law would be observed. He wished to deal with this aggression in the same manner as our ancestors had dealt with similar acts; not content with repelling the particular aggression by substantive enactment, they asserted in plain terms the entire freedom and independence of this realm.—The SOLICITOR-GENERAL opposed the insertion of these words in the preamble, which latter, in conjunction with the second and third clauses, would, he contended, sufficiently effect the object in view. No one denied that the first part of the proposed amendment was undoubted law; by this recital, therefore, the law would in no way be strengthened, while it would compel Roman Catholic members to sanction a declaration they were not required to make at the table.—Upon a division, after some discussion, the amendment was negatived by 140 against 131.—Mr. WALPOLE then moved another amendment of the preamble by adding words declaring that the brief purported to constitute within the realm, contrary to the law and custom thereof, a hierarchy of bishops named from sees and with titles derived from places belonging to the Crown of England.—Lord J. RUSSELL resisted this addition, which, upon a division, was negatived by 141 against 117. The committee then divided upon the preamble itself, which was carried by 200 against 39.

The house then went into committee upon the *Oath of Abjuration (Jews) Bill*, which passed through without a division, though with several strong protests against the principle of the measure.

The adjourned debate on the report of the committee of supply was resumed by Mr. HUME, who made the vote of 300,000*l.* towards the *Expenses of the Caffre War* the subject of a complaint against the Government for withholding from the colonists of the Cape of Good Hope a representative system granted by letters patent. Lord J. RUSSELL, in reply, stated the mode in which a representative system had been granted to the Cape. The letters patent contained no distinct details, but only an outline of the system, to be filled up in the colony, and the scheme was to be sent home in the shape of ordinances for the decision of her Majesty's government. He explained the course adopted by Sir Harry Smith, who, instead of filling up the vacant seats of the council by nominees, completed that assembly, by which the new ordinances were to be framed, by members elected in the colony; and he detailed the result of that measure—the differences which arose in the council and the secession of Sir A. Stockenström and his colleagues, who, he thought, had taken a most unfortunate course, since, but for it, the ordinances would have been transmitted to this country and received the consideration of the home government, and a representative constitution would have been now in force in the colony.—The report was then agreed to.

Mr. LABOUCHERE, in moving the second reading of the *Lands Clauses Consolidation (Ireland) Bill*, observed that there were circumstances in the tenures of land in Ireland which called for a more simple, summary, and effectual mode of proceeding in the valuation of lands taken for railways than by jury trial, for which he proposed to substitute a system of arbitration, upon the details of which he would consult Irish members. He asked the house, at present, merely to sanction the principle of the bill.—Mr. DISRAELI protested against such a course of proceeding as that of obtaining from the house an assent to the principle of a bill and then settling its details with certain members out of the house. This course was a new and dangerous one.—The debate which ensued turned chiefly upon this point. The principle of the bill, though objected to by Mr. J. Stuart, was generally approved of by Irish members.—Mr. LABOUCHERE explained and justified the course he had taken; and the bill was read a second time.

On the consideration of the *General Board of Health Bill* as amended, a discussion arose as to the exclusion of the town of Hastings from the schedule, which was affirmed on a division.

On Tuesday, the 24th, the third reading of the *Smithfield Market Removal Bill* having been moved, Mr. A. STAFFORD, after protesting against the measure, declared his conviction that it would be negatived in another place.—Mr. HUME also objected strongly to the bill, and moved that it be read a third time that day six months. Some considerable discussion followed, when a division was taken, and the bill was read a third time by a majority of 81 to 32—45. The bill was then passed.

In moving the second reading of the *Church Building Act Amendment Bill*, Sir G. GREY described the effect of the measure which was designed to accomplish a subdivision of large parishes in proportion to their population, with the object of facilitating the erection of churches, and providing an increased accommodation for the public.—Mr. HUME apprehended that the measure would tend to diminish the number of free sittings in churches, since powers were conferred on the bishops to levy a charge both on the seats to be constructed in new churches, and on those which were now enjoyed by the poorer members of congregations without cost. Believing the bill to involve many considerations of great importance, he objected to its being hurried through the house, and moved that it be read a second time that day six months.—A prolonged discussion, turning chiefly upon the point whether the house had had time enough to consider and comprehend the bill, ended in the adjournment of the debate until Friday, the 27th.

Mr. MILNER GIBSON moved for the appointment of a select committee to inquire into the working of the *Bonded Warehouse System at Manchester*, as far as it affected importers, dealers, and the general interests of trade in that town. Manchester, as related by the hon. member, had enjoyed bonding privileges for a few years, upon the understanding that the corporation should pay all the custom-house expenses. The arrangement was, however, left at the discretion of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, who had indicated a purpose of withdrawing the privilege hereafter. This step, he contended, was unequal for and mischievous, and he maintained that, so far from the bonding system being entrenched, the government ought to pay the expenses attending it, seeing that the public revenue had profited by it nearly as much as Manchester itself.—The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER explained that the privilege of bonding was about to be withdrawn from Manchester, simply because the borough authorities had objected to continue to defray the consequent expenses, about 2,700*l.* per annum. If they thought the benefits worth paying for, he was willing to extend them, but there was no reason why an exceptional concession should be made in behalf of Manchester, all other inland towns being obliged to obtain the establishment of a bonding system by providing the cost of collecting the customs duties therein.—Mr. BRIGHT contended for the general principle, that no distinction should be drawn between inland towns and seaports in conferring on them the advantages of the bonding

system. He referred to the enormous trade and manufacturing products of Manchester, as proving the title that town could urge for a share in the facilities accorded to ports of comparatively insignificant consequence.—In the subsequent discussion the motion was opposed by Mr. HUME, Mr. Labouchere, and Lord Galway; and supported by Mr. Tatton Egerton, Mr. Brotherton, Mr. Spooner, Mr. Heywood, and Mr. Kershaw.—On a division it was negatived by 65 to 50.

Mr. FREWEN moved a resolution recommending the extension of the jurisdiction of the *Central Criminal Court* over the whole of each county comprised in the circuit. The motion, he stated, was designed as a basis for legislation in a future session.—Sir G. GREY deprecated, as premature, a resolution which would tend to limit the future action of the legislature.—Mr. FREWEN consented not to press for a division, and the motion was then negatived by consent.

Mr. H. HERBERT moved a resolution, pledging the house, on some future day, to consider in committee an address to the crown, praying that a similar measure of relief might be afforded to the depositors in the late *Rothdale, Scarborough, Tralee, and Killarney Savings Banks* as had been already extended to the sufferers by the failure of the savings bank in Cuffe-street, Dublin. The hon. member defended his proposition on the score of justice, since the depositors in the defaulting banks had relied upon the ostensible guarantee of the government; and urged further, on the score of humanity and policy, that the loss had fallen upon a large number of very poor depositors, and that if they were not reimbursed, at all events partially, the principle of self-denial and providence among the operative classes would suffer a severe shock. The cost of providing a dividend equal to that paid to the Cuffe-street depositors, for the sufferers set forth in his resolution, he estimated at something under 100,000*l.*—The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER submitted that by passing the proposed resolution, the house would affirm the principle that all losses incurred by the failure, from any cause, of any savings banks, must be repaid from the public revenue. This principle he could not admit. Explaining in some detail the respective functions performed by the manager, the trustees, and the government, in respect of those banks, he declared that the only responsibility assumed by the latter was that of holding a certain portion of the invested balances, and to that extent the depositors were perfectly safe. But here he limited the liability of the government.—Mr. BRIGHT feared that the resolution would offer a premium upon delinquency, and would result in the annual application for a vote to cover similar defaultations. But as the law was defective, and the government had so far interfered with the savings banks as to lead to an impression among the depositors that their money was placed upon a national security, he suggested as a measure of justice that a bill should be brought in to regulate the future liability, and that the house should take a charitable view of the past.—The motion was supported by Mr. Hume, Col. Thompson, and Col. Dunne; and opposed by Mr. Henley and Mr. J. A. Smith.—It was negatived by 63 to 56.

On Wednesday, the 25th, Mr. COWAN moved the second reading of the *Universities (Scotland) Bill*. He observed that these universities were not ecclesiastical, but merely educational institutions, unconnected with the Church, and that the tests applied there were more of a political than of an ecclesiastical nature, having been originally directed against Prelates and Papists, in order to eject such individuals, then holding professorships, and to exclude them in future from the chairs. There was no real dissent in Scotland; the differences had no relation to spiritual doctrines, but arose from the inroads of the civil power. The object of the bill was to declare that individuals had been driven out of these universities by an act of the civil power, and that it was fair and just that they should not be debarred from their rights as British subjects, by the enforcement of tests which he characterised as an absurdity and a mockery.—Mr. W. LOCKHART said that this was an unfortunate time to bring this subject forward. He denied that these tests had a mere political origin; they were introduced in order to strengthen the Church, and to give the people of Scotland a religious education.

This bill, he contended, was incompatible with the coronation oath and with the Act of Union, and he moved that the second reading be deferred for six months.—Mr. EWAIR defended the bill, as being founded upon the general principle of opening the universities to all, and in accordance with religion, and with the spirit of the times.—Sir G. GREY said he should vote for the second reading of the bill; at the same time he did not think that this was a very convenient time to introduce the subject, and a division would not at present express the real opinion of the house. With respect to the question itself, however necessary these tests might have been when originally instituted, that necessity had long passed away, and he believed it was not for the interests of the universities themselves that they should be retained.—Mr. E. ELICE suggested the withdrawal of the bill, to which Mr. Alexander HASTIE objected, giving his cordial support to the measure.—Upon a division, the bill was lost by a single vote, the ayes for the second reading being 65 and the noes 66.

Mr. McCULLAGH moved the second reading of the *Encumbered Estates Leases (Ireland) Bill*, by which he proposed to give power to the commissioners, upon their valuation of land for sale, to allow the tenant who had been in possession for a certain time, and was out of arrears, and who was rated to the value which entitled him to the elective franchise, to come in and obtain leases, under certain conditions, after the absolute order for the sale of the land should have been made.—Mr. NAHER urged a variety of objections to the bill, which would, he said, put an end to all security for property in land in Ireland.—The bill was likewise opposed by Mr. French and Colonel Dunne, and supported by Mr. Roche.—Mr. HATCHELL objected, not only to the details, but to the whole principle of the bill, which would give to a temporary board, appointed for a particular purpose, powers of control over landlords, and even creditors, utterly irreconcilable with the rights of property in any country. He moved to defer the second reading for six months.—Mr. S. CRAWFORD supported the principle of the measure.—The bill was rejected on a division by 94 against 15.

PROGRESS OF BUSINESS.

House of Lords.—June 2nd.—Absconding Debtors Bill read a second time.

3rd.—Marriages India Bill passed through committee pro forma.—County Courts Extension Bill (No. 2.) read a second time pro forma.

5th.—County Courts extension Bill (No. 2.) passed through committee.—Law of Evidence Amendment Bill referred to a select committee.

6th.—Adjournment to Monday, 16th inst.

16th.—Public Houses (Scotland) Bill read a third time and passed.

19th.—Regulation of Assurances Bill, committee pro forma.—Arrest of Absconding Debtors Bill passed through committee.

24th.—Stamp Duties (Ireland) Bill read a second time.—Registration of Assurances Bill read a third time and passed.—Salmon Fisheries (Scotland) Bill read a second time.

House of Commons.—May 28th.—Coroner's Bill, second reading postponed for a month and select committee appointed.—Audit of Railway Accounts Bill considered in committee.

29th.—Ceylon Inquiry.—Mr. Baillie's resolutions negatived.

30th.—Ecclesiastical Titles' Bill considered in committee.—Colonial Property Qualification Bill read a second time.

June 2nd.—New Forest Deer Removal Bill read a second time.—Ecclesiastical Titles' Bill further considered in committee.

3rd.—No house.

4th.—Lord Melgund's School Establishment (Scotland) Bill thrown out on second reading.

5th.—St. Alban's Bribery Commission Bill considered in committee.—Metropolis Water Bill read a second time.—Leave given Colonel Sibthorp to bring in a Bill against Advertising Vans and Barrel Organs.

5th.—Ecclesiastical Titles' Bill further considered in committee.—Home-made Spirits in Bond; motion by Chancellor of the Exchequer against Lord Naas's Resolutions, negatived.—Adjournment till Thursday, 12th inst.

12th.—Navy Estimates considered in committee.—Pharmaceutical Chemists, Mr. Bell's Resolution for a Bill agreed to in committee.

13th.—Chancery Reform.—Leave granted Lord J. Russell to bring in two Bills.—Committee of Supply.—Vote for Caffre War.—Income Tax.—Mr. Hume's Select Committee nominated. Colonel Sibthorp's Bill against Barrel Organs and Advertising

Vans thrown out on second reading.—Pharmacy Bill read a first time.

16th.—Committee of Supply.—Acts of Parliament Abbreviation Act Repeal Bill thrown out, by 66 to 12.

17th.—Aylesbury Election.—Messrs. Strutt and Commingham committed for breach of privilege, reprimanded and discharged.—St Alban's Election Bill considered in committee.—Mr. Bass' motion for repeal of half of the Malt Tax, negatived.—International Arbitration.—Mr. Cobden's Motion debated and withdrawn.—Motion of Mr. Hume's respecting Bible monopoly negatived.

18th.—New Writ for Bath.—Sunday Trading Bill thrown out.—Landlord and Tenant Bill considered in committee.

19th.—Smithfield Market Bill considered in committee.—Religious Tests in Universities, Heywood's motion, house counted out.

20th.—Ecclesiastical Titles' Bill considered in committee.—General Board of Health Bill passed through committee.—Merchant Seamen's Fund, leave given M. Labouchere to bring in a Bill.

23rd.—Ecclesiastical Titles' Bill again in committee.—Amendments negatived and preamble affirmed.—Court of Chancery and Judicial Committee Bill read a second time. The Gunpowder stores (Liverpool) Exemption Repeal Bill went through committee.—The Civil Bills, &c. (Ireland).—Bill considered in committee.—Lodging Houses Bill read a third time and passed.

24th.—Prevention of Offences Bill, and Smithfield Market Removal Bill read a third time and passed.—Mr. M. Gibson's Motion for the appointment of a Select Committee on the Bonded Warehouse System at Manchester negatived.—Mr. Sidney Herbert's resolution respecting Savings' Banks negatived.

25th.—Universities (Scotland) Bill, and Encumbered Estates Leases (Ireland) Bill, thrown out on second reading.—Gunpowder Stores (Liverpool) Exemption Repeal Bill read a third time and passed.—Medical Charities (Ireland) Bill considered in committee.

The Bishop of Exeter's Synod assembled in that city on the 25th inst. Great numbers of clergymen arrived in Exeter on the previous evening, and up to the hour of meeting, from all parts of Devonshire and Cornwall. A couple of policemen were on duty near the door, around which were stationed about 20 or 30 men, a few women, and many children. The chancel of the cathedral was filled, principally with clergymen. There were several ladies and spectators present. His lordship occupied the throne. There was a full choral service, and the Rev. Prebendary Hole preached a long and elaborate sermon, which occupied about an hour and twenty minutes in the delivery. The reverend company then took the sacrament with the bishop, after which they adjourned to the chapter-house, where the synod was to be held. The diocesan protest against this synod has been signed by above two thousand persons of all classes; it is headed by the Lord Lieutenant, Earl Portescue, and contains the signatures of Earl Morley, Lord Polimore, Lord Ebrington, Lord Sinclair, Sir J. Kennaway, Sir H. F. Davy, Sir T. T. Drake, Sir J. H. Williams, Sir L. V. Palk, and Sir Henry Browne. Some scores of county magistrates have also signed, together with the Mayor of Exeter, and several borough mayors. Several generals and admirals are among the protesters, together with colonels in the army, captains in the navy, and members of the medical profession. The yeomanry have signed by hundreds, and the merchants, shopkeepers, and respectable inhabitants in towns in large numbers.

Mr. Dawes, the free-trade candidate for the Isle of Wight, has been returned, in opposition to Mr. Hamond. At Harwich, Mr. R. Wigram Crawford, a free-trader, was returned in opposition to Mr. Prinsep, the late protectionist member, who had been unseated on petition. The result of the election for Bath is the return of Captain Seobell, the liberal candidate, in opposition to Mr. Sutcliffe.

NARRATIVE OF LAW AND CRIME.

A Serious Riot, caused by a Protectionist Meeting, took place at Tamworth on the 28th of May. The protectionists dined in the town-hall. A cold collation was sent from Birmingham, the use of the principal Tamworth hotel having been denied, through the influence of the present Sir Robert Peel. The chair was occupied by Mr. Wollerstan, a landowner of Stad-

fold; and among the company were Mr. Spooner, Mr. Newdegate, Lord Lewisham, the Honourable Mr. Jervis, and Mr. George Frederick Young. About nine o'clock, Mr. Newdegate rose to propose the chairman's health. He had no sooner done so than an enormous paving-stone was thrown through the windows into the middle of the hall, and immediately volleys of large stones were thrown at the hall-windows, till every window and every chandelier was smashed. The company had made a hasty flight into the lobbies, where they armed themselves with chair-legs, poker, knives, and all such weapons as were within reach, and to the number of three hundred made a sally into the street. A hand-to-hand fight took place; many persons were seriously injured; and the protectionists and their friends took refuge in the King's Arms Inn, every window of which was broken to atoms. As the daring of the populace increased, it was deemed expedient to swear in special constables. This was, however, unsuccessful at first: when the constables made a sally from the hotel, the populace drove them back, and the most savage beating took place on both sides. For two hours the town was in possession of the mob; and amongst the acts of daring committed was the taking of the farmers' vehicles from the inn-yards and casting them over the bridge into the river. Towards midnight the populace cleared off, and the constables paraded the streets. About a dozen persons were taken into custody. At one o'clock on the following morning, the disturbance had so far subsided that the order for the military was countermanded. At noon on that day, however, matters looked so threatening that a detachment of dragoons was obtained from Birmingham; and in the evening all was again quiet. Not more than twenty of the Peel tenantry were present at the dinner.

A case of *Murder Long Concealed* has come to light near Kilkenny. Mary Fleming, a widow, informed the police that one night between the 25th December 1847, and 1st January 1848, she chanced to pass the door of John Walsh, at Castlegannon; she turned for the purpose of going in, but drew back in terror upon beholding the body of Walsh's brother-in-law, Thomas Ball, a cow-jobber, lying dead and covered with blood on the floor, and Walsh and his daughter making ready to remove it by the back-door. She contrived to get away without being observed; and upon reaching home, informed her husband of what she had beheld. He strictly enjoined her never to divulge the circumstance; and during his life she kept the pledge. Ball had been suddenly missed at the time referred to by the woman Fleming, but it was supposed that he had gone to America: he had a large sum of money in his possession. Walsh and his daughter have been arrested. Search was made at their house in Castlegannon, and a skeleton was found buried in the earth a few yards from the back-door. A coroner's inquest has returned this verdict:—"That the said deceased was discovered dead in an old yard, late in the occupation of John Walsh, on the lands of Knockmoylan; that said deceased's skull was extensively fractured on both temples, with a blunt or some such weapon, feloniously and of malice aforethought, by him the said John Walsh, late of Castlegannon, aided and assisted therein by a person or persons unknown; and that the said murder appears to have been perpetrated on or about the close of the year 1847."

A most *Melancholy Suicide* has been committed by Mary Rebecca Pratt, the young wife of a tradesman at Hammersmith. Mrs. Pratt was but twenty-two, and had been married only ten weeks; she was handsome and accomplished. Her husband went out to market very early on the morning of Friday the 6th. At half past six that morning, Mrs. Pratt rang for her maid, and was assisted to dress in a red silk dress, instead of her usual morning one. She left her house shortly afterwards. In the afternoon of that day, some boys at Kingston saw her throw herself into the river from the opposite bank: a boat put off, and she was recovered from the middle of the stream; but the immersion was fatal, for after three quarters of an hour's exertion at restoration it was found that the poor woman was dead. In her pocket were found a little silver money, and a letter addressed to her husband: this letter was read at the Coroner's inquest—

"Kingston, Friday.

"James,—For the last time I address you. May God forgive you, as I do, for the wicked accusations you have brought against me. When I took an oath to you last night, it was quite true, and all I said afterwards a lie, prompted by the fear of being murdered. May every wife do her duty as well as I have done, even though she has a drunken husband. Good bye! I never expect to meet you again.

"Your broken-hearted wife, MARY R. PRATT."

Mr. Nutt, a licensed victualler of Gracechurch-street, attended at the inquest, and put in evidence a letter addressed by Mrs. Pratt to himself as her former guardian; it came to him by post and bore the Kingston post-mark of Friday.

"My dear Mr. and Mrs. Nutt,—I have left my husband under the most dreadful circumstances: he has accused me of being seduced by my father when I was only seventeen years old, and also allowing Mr. Nutt the same improper intercourse. Last night he seized me by the hair, drew my head back, and held his razor to my throat; he then jumped on me, and tried to strangle me with his hands. I still persisted in my innocence of such dreadful crimes; but feeling certain he would murder me, I owned, although every word I spoke was a lie, that all was quite true. I hope God will forgive me for being so wicked, and saying what I knew was not right of my dear father and Mr. Nutt. I felt so helpless I did not know what to do; indeed, I am almost out of my mind, and what I shall do with myself I do not know. Accept my love and thanks for the very great kindness I received from you. I got away from home whilst he was at market. He left me in bed and I promised I would remain there; but I could not. I am at Kingston. How long I shall stay here I do not know. I write in such distress of mind, I hope you will excuse all errors. With kindest love to you both and the dear children, believe me to remain,

"Yours most affectionately, MARY R. PRATT."

Mr. Nutt gave evidence that he had known Mrs. Pratt from her childhood. A more worthy upright man than her father never lived. For himself, he was attached to the deceased as to his child, and had ever acted as a parent to her since she lost her father. He gave her away at her marriage; he had seen her with her husband several times since, and had no notion but that they were happy. The Coroner pointed out that the husband was not the instrument of the wife's death; she had not jumped out of window to avoid him, and her body bore no marks of violence: she had left the house voluntarily. The jury found that the suicide had been committed under "temporary derangement."

In the Court of Queen's Bench, Lord Campbell has pronounced the final decision of the full court on the *Claim of William Henry Barber* to be re-admitted as an attorney: the court held that, if not directly cognizant of the fraud and forgery, he was wilfully blind; and as his own misconduct had entailed the consequences which followed, strict justice demanded that his application be refused.

At the last Chester Assizes, Thomas Smith, J. Feehan, James Haggarty, and Matthew Griffin, with another prisoner, since discharged, were convicted of a *Riot at Birkenhead*, and sentenced to twelve months' imprisonment. A petition praying for a mitigation of the sentence received 17,000 signatures in one day. Upon consideration of the whole facts of the case, the Queen has ordered the immediate discharge of the prisoners.

In the case of *Lewis Joel*, convicted in January, 1850, of felony, for having uttered a forged acceptance of Mr. John Marcus Clements, to a bill of exchange, knowing the same to be forged, and sentenced by Mr. Justice Talfourd to transportation, Sir George Grey, the Home Secretary, has advised the Queen to grant Mr. Joel her royal pardon, the result of two verdicts in Ireland having established the fact, that Mr. Clements acceptance was not forged.

At the recent election for the Isle of Wight, a *Riot at Ryde* so terrified Mr. Cole, an agent for Captain Hamond, the Protectionist candidate, that he fell dead. It seems he was chased along several streets, pelted with rotten eggs and turf, pulled by the hair, and knocked down; he rushed into the house of Captain Christian, to escape his persecutors, and dropped down. It was stated at the inquest, that a post-mortem examination showed marks of disease of the heart; the membranes of the brain were congested with blood, and there was an effusion of blood between the scalp and the skull; but these things would not account for the death. The

jury gave this verdict: "Manslaughter against divers persons unknown."

An American emigration agent, named Samuel Saunders, was brought before the Borough Police Court, at Manchester, on the 7th inst.; having been apprehended upon a warrant charging him with *Obtaining Money by False Pretences* from an emigrant. This man's proceedings had previously attracted notice; and about twelve months ago a public meeting was held at Manchester, when the Rev. Mr. Barker, of Leeds, and Mr. Archibald Prentice, were present, and spoke from their own knowledge of the total unfitness of the land in Virginia, for the sale of which Saunders professed to be agent, for cultivation. The complainant on this occasion was John Booth, formerly of Salford; he said that in August, 1849, having been attracted by publications issued by the prisoner, which stated that he had land to sell in America, suitable for persons desirous of emigrating, he waited upon the prisoner at his own office. Saunders there told him the land he had to sell was in Doddridge county, State of Virginia; and drew a very tempting picture of its inducements and capabilities. He called it "fine rolling land," said it was very fertile, that crops of wheat were growing on it when he (Saunders) saw it six feet high; that a river ran through it; that there were collieries, and factories, and a foundry in operation upon it; that being partly settled, it was extremely eligible for an emigrant, because, on getting there, such emigrant would find plenty of neighbours flocking about him ready to give assistance in constructing a log house, and to do other things material in giving a fair start to a person in such circumstances. The witness having saved some money, and being desirous to emigrate, was induced, by these representations, to buy a plot of 338 acres of land from the prisoner, called Lot No. 21, and to pay *6l. 15s. 2d.* to him for it as a deposit of ten per cent. upon *66l. 12s. 2d.*, being *4s.* an acre. He sailed for New York, and arrived there in October, 1849, having a letter to Mr. O'Connor, the prisoner's agent. From Mr. O'Connor, he and another emigrant were referred to a Mr. Underwood, who lived eight miles from the land, and who was to give them possession. They proceeded then to Doddridge county, Virginia, and saw Mr. Underwood, who at once told them he feared they had been duped, like many others coming from England, by this Saunders. He took them, however, to see the land, and witness was satisfied he had been swindled. On going to visit the land they found it a sterile mountainous country, almost inaccessible. They had to pull themselves up it by the branches of trees. The cultivation of such land was out of the question. There was no river, no colliery, no foundry or factory within many miles. Finding himself duped, and his money failing him, he sought work; and after being there upwards of twelve months, had worked his way back to Manchester. On arriving there he called on Saunders, who said, "What are you come back?" The witness said, "Back from where?" And prisoner replied, "From the far West." Witness told him he was, and began to tell him how he had duped him. In the conversation he saw some of the printed papers lying on the prisoner's counter, which had first allured him to think of becoming a purchaser, and asked him how he could issue such lies? The prisoner coolly replied, that lies did better for some people than the truth, and sent for a police officer to remove him from the office. — Saunders's solicitor attempted to argue that his representations were not such as constituted false pretences under the statute; and that, moreover, he was only the agent of other parties. And Saunders himself entered into a long rambling statement, in which he said, "People here like something level, but for his part, he liked hilly land, and had bought 1080 acres of it, believing it to be more healthy than low land, which gaveagues to the settlers; he had sold land to hundreds of persons who had never come back and complained." — Mr. Beswick (police superintendent) "But we have hundreds of letters at the office from them, complaining that they have been duped in this way." — The magistrate committed the prisoner for trial at the next assizes, admitting him to bail on two sureties for *50l.* each.

On the 11th, an inquest was held at Chiswick upon

the body of Mr. Samuel Thorrington, a coal merchant and bargemaster, late residing at Hill Cottage, who had committed *Suicide* by discharging a rifle pistol at the back part of his head. It appeared from the evidence of the wife of the deceased that on Monday evening he came into her bed-room with a pistol in his hand, and exclaimed "Here old girl, the time has come." She, fearing he was going to shoot her, rushed out into the garden, and called to the police, when the report of a pistol was heard, and on her re-entering the house, the deceased was found in the agonies of death, and weltering in his blood. He was considered by his medical man to have been decidedly insane. His wife had lived separately from him on account of some unhappy difference, and had come on that occasion to see his mother. A verdict was found to the effect that the deceased destroyed himself while in an insane state of mind.

The suit of *Metairie and Wiseman* was brought to a close in Lord Cranworth's Court on the 17th, by a compromise; the main feature of which is, that the 7000*l.* stock is to be divided between the next of kin of Mr. Carré and the trustees for the charity of St. Aloysius. 4000*l.* go to the next of kin and 3000*l.* to the charity; a sum of 404*l.* 18*s.* 5*d.* already in the possession of the trustees to be divided in the same proportions; each party to bear his own costs; and "all offensive imputations to be withdrawn by the plaintiffs."

A *Fatal Affray* took place on the 17th in Londonderry between some soldiers of the 34th depot, stationed there, and the constabulary. The affair originated in some insulting treatment offered by the soldiers to a countryman; and the police having interfered to disperse a crowd which had collected, the soldiers attacked them, using their belts in the assault. One of the police survived the injuries which he received little more than twenty-four hours, and an inquest having been held on his remains on Thursday, the jury found that he had died from the effect of a blow inflicted by John Day, one of the soldiers, three others aiding and abetting. It was strongly recommended that the custom of soldiers wearing belts off duty should be discontinued.

On the 18th, Abel Curtis was tried for *Stealing Eleven Ounces of Indigo*, the property of the East and West India Dock Company. Mr. Curtis is clerk to an indigo-broker; he went to the docks to inspect indigo; on his departure he was stopped and searched, and the indigo was found packed in his sample-box. The company did not authorize any one to take away pieces of indigo of such size as samples: hence this prosecution. But the company's own witnesses proved that Mr. Curtis asked the man who showed the indigo to pack up for him the pieces now alleged to be stolen, and the man placed them in the box with other samples. The jury did not require the counsel for the accused to address them, but returned a verdict of "Not guilty."

A well-dressed lad, named Harris, was charged at the Clerkenwell police-court on the 21st, with *Vagrancy*. A mendicity officer said he saw the prisoner go up to a woman who was selling cat's meat, and purchase a half pennyworth of it. He then waited until a number of persons assembled about him, when he began devouring the meat, saying he was hungry, and, in fact, starving. Witness and many others prevented him finishing that repast, and gave him money to purchase wholesome food; but as he readily pocketed the coin, and refused to lay it out as the donors intended, he (Colley) thought it right to walk him off to the Mendicity office to see if he were known. He could not, however, be identified there, but as he had nearly 2*s.* in his pocket, besides some food, witness deemed it proper to introduce him to a magistrate. The officer added that since he had locked the prisoner up, he had ascertained that he had lodgings in Eagle-street, Red Lion-square, where he had breakfasted that morning off two eggs, plenty of bread and butter, and tea. The magistrate said it was abominable and almost incredible to what extent and by what means the benevolent were gulled and plundered, and he sincerely lamented he had not the power to punish the defendant, but he knew of no law to prevent a man dining off cat's-meat. The present exposure would, he had no doubt, have a beneficial effect, and with a recommendation to the defendant not to try the same game on again, he discharged him.

James Callaghan, a well-dressed young man, was charged on the 21st at the Southwark Police Court with *Blacking the eyes and otherwise ill-using* Julia Love, a young woman residing in Bermondsey. The complainant, whose face was much disfigured, stated that she became acquainted with the prisoner about Christmas last, by his living near the railway, and an intimacy sprang up between them shortly afterwards, which resulted in her being introduced to his family as his future wife. She was in the habit of walking out with him every Sunday, and nothing had previously happened to destroy their happiness until the previous evening, when she was near her own house. He then suddenly sprang upon her in a lonely part of the Maze, and would have murdered her had not a police-constable come to her assistance, and rescued her from his ravaging violence. She was stunned by the repeated blows on her face, and in the struggle to clude his grasp her clothes were much torn. The Magistrate asked her what reason she could assign for his sudden violence of conduct? Had he ever assaulted her? She replied that she could not account for his violence, as they never had an angry word before. She supposed he was jealous of her. The Magistrate:—“What reason had he to be jealous of you? The girl said that the only reason she could assign for his jealous conduct was her being in company with a cousin on Sunday last. On Thursday morning she received the following letter from him:—

“Faithless Julia,—Yon, like all your sex, is a base deceiver, and breaker of a man's heart. I don't believe that the man you went to the Exhibition with is your cousin no more than I am; and I am fully confirmed in that from some conversation I had with a police-constable yesterday. I am determined to do for you, so that you shan't have an opportunity of deceiving anybody else, so you had better look out. This from your broken-hearted sweetheart, JAMES CALLAGHAN.”

Witness was exceedingly surprised when she received that letter, but, believing that he could not be in earnest, she took very little notice of it, neither did she think that he ever intended to carry his foolish threats into execution. In answer to the charge, the prisoner said that he was extremely sorry for what he had done. He was certainly inclined to be jealous, and, hearing from a police-constable that the complainant had been out all day with a man, he lost all command of his reason. The young woman said that she was quite willing to forgive him for the injury committed on her person, but she could not exactly forgive him for the injury inflicted on her mind. She would therefore, with the magistrate's consent, withdraw the charge; but she could not think of continuing to keep company with him until he got rid of his jealous temper. The prisoner was bound over to keep the peace, and discharged.

An extraordinary case of *Murder* has taken place in Belgium, the Count and Countess de Bocarmé have been tried at Mons, on the charge of having poisoned the Countess's brother Gustave Fougny, in order to obtain his fortune. The Count, whose affairs were much embarrassed, invited his brother-in-law to dinner. Gustave dined in company with the Count and Countess, and died immediately after dinner, while they were both present. It was proved, by the appearance of the body and other circumstances, that a corrosive fluid had been forcibly poured down his throat. On the trial the Count endeavoured to represent the circumstance as accidental, while his wife charged him with the deliberate murder of her brother, admitting her own previous knowledge of her husband's intention, but denying any participation in the deed. After a protracted trial, which terminated on the 21st inst., the Count was convicted, and condemned to death; while the Countess was acquitted.

NARRATIVE OF ACCIDENT AND DISASTER.

THE inquest on the two persons killed on the Midland Counties Railway, at Clay Cross, on the 20th ult. (see *Household Narrative* for May), has found unanimously that the deaths were caused by the reckless speed at

which Stretton, the engine-driver, was driving the engine of the luggage train which ran into the passenger train before it, and has returned a verdict of manslaughter against him. The jury add the following censure: “The jury cannot sufficiently condemn the practice of allowing a luggage-train to start five minutes after a passenger-train without sufficient measures being taken to insure the former keeping its relative distance from the other, as marked in the time tables. The jury consider the officials guilty of great negligence in not placing a break behind the last carriage of the passenger-train on the night the accident occurred. It is also their opinion that a proper person ought to be on duty at the semaphore of the Clay Cross station, to attend to the night signals as well as those of the day, and strongly reprobate the neglect of the precaution. The jury consider the practice highly improper of allowing the passenger-trains to stop at stations not named in the time-tables.”

A fatal *Railway Accident* took place on the 6th, on the Brighton and Lewes line. A short train, which left Brighton for Lewes at twelve o'clock, ran off the line at about two miles from Lewes, dragging two carriages with it through the side of a bridge wall, and fell down an embankment. Mrs. Chatfield, an aged lady, her daughter, a young gentleman named Langhorne, and the stoker, were killed on the spot; Jackson, the engine-driver, died two days afterwards. An inquest commenced on the day after the accident on the bodies of the persons then dead. From Mr. W. Balchin, the station-master at Brighton, the jury learned that in this train the tender had preceded the engine, and thus the train had been deprived of the protection given by the powerful iron guard with which the engine is armed, and which might have thrown off the sleeper which was found after the accident. Mr. Balchin stated that the time allowed between the arrival and starting of trains at the Brighton station is not always enough to allow the engines and tenders to be reversed and placed engine foremost before the trains. In the course of the inquiry it came to be suspected that the sleeper might have been placed across the line by a boy of ten years old, the son of a labourer named Boakes, whose cottage is at the foot of the embankment. The boy was examined; but being questioned as to his knowledge of the nature of an oath, he could not answer, but only cried. The coroner therefore would not take his oath. At the following sitting, he was again questioned on the same subject, and, his answers seeming more satisfactory, his evidence was taken, with the caution that he should not criminate himself. He denied having gone upon the line; and there being no other evidence on this point, the jury returned the following verdict: “We find that the deaths of the deceased were caused by the train running off the rails, and passing over the Newmarket archway; that a broken sleeper was found on the spot after the accident, but by what means it came there does not appear to the jury; that in this instance the tender preceded the engine, and that the train passed down the Palmer incline at a greater rate than directed by the company; and the jury are of opinion that such practices are dangerous, and that had the engine been placed first, or the tender been provided with iron guards, the probability of safety would have been much increased; that the jury express their regret that so much connected with this accident should have been moved before their inspection, by which they were prevented from so complete an examination as otherwise might have been afforded.” At an inquest subsequently held on the body of Jackson, the driver, the jury delivered the following verdict:—“The jurors find that Samuel Jackson died from injuries occasioned by the train passing off the line near the archway leading to Newmarket hill on the Lewes and Brighton railway, caused by a wooden sleeper having been wilfully, feloniously, and maliciously placed across the outer rail on the northern side of the down line, by some person or persons unknown. The jury cannot separate without calling on the directors to discontinue the practice as far as possible of running the tender before the engine, as there is a possibility that had the engine been first, the guards might have removed the obstruction, and in so doing have prevented the accident. The jurors also hope that the company

will adopt some plan for strengthening the guard irons, so as to render them capable of removing heavy as well as light substances, and likewise for fixing guard irons to the tender."

A frightful *Boiler Explosion* occurred on the 7th, at Mr. Braine's colliery, at Kingswood, near Bristol. The Starveall pit, together with several others, is worked by means of a steam engine. The old boiler having fully done its work, a new one was to have been erected, and while a number of men were in the act of removing the masonry in which the old boiler was fixed, without waiting for the steam to blow off, suddenly the boiler burst with a terrific explosion, by which it was completely blown out of its bed, and huge fragments of it, together with the surrounding stone and brickwork, hurled to a great height in the air. The boiling water and red-hot cinders were scattered around in all directions, falling on the persons of several of the men, and scalding them in the most fearful manner. Mr. Braine himself was thrown down by the violence of the explosion, and his hat knocked off by a portion of the flying *debris*, but fortunately he escaped without serious injury. Medical assistance having shortly arrived some of the poor fellows were laid on beds, and carried on carts to the Bristol Royal Infirmary, but in many instances the injuries were too desperate to warrant the removal of the sufferers. During the day four men died, and the deaths of four others were afterwards reported. At the inquest, it appeared from the evidence that the accident was produced by a want of sufficient water, and from there having been a considerable quantity of steam evaporated while the engine was standing. The Jury returned as their verdict—"That the deceased parties came by their deaths through the explosion of a steam-boiler, which explosion was caused by the carelessness and inattention of the engineer, John Burchall."—Burehall was one of the men who had lost their lives.

A serious *Balloon Accident* occurred on the evening of the 16th. Mr. and Mrs. Graham ascended from Batty's Hippodrome, near Kensington. The balloon rose slowly, but had not ascended above fifty or sixty feet when it again sank, and in doing so the silken envelope came in contact with a pole or flag-staff, sustaining a considerable rent, by which the gas began to escape. The balloon again ascended, and by a succession of alternate risings and sinkings at length got clear of the inclosure, and floated away in the direction of the Crystal Palace. When over the building the aeronauts discharged their ballast, which they had been compelled to carry, greatly to their own disadvantage, while moving over the heads of the crowd. After clearing the building with some difficulty, and damaging a flag-staff, the balloon drifted towards the Green park, and skimmed the surface of the reservoir, whence it again suddenly rose to the altitude of the houses in Piccadilly. A breeze at this time carried the balloon towards the roof of Col. North's house in Arlington street, which looks into the park. In its passage over that dwelling the ear became fixed between the sloping roof and a stack of chimneys rising from it. A gust of wind now gave a new impetus to the machine, which dragged heavily, and carried away the chimney stack. Its buoyant force seemed to have been exhausted by this effort, and as the gas was fast escaping, it offered no resistance to the wind sufficient to permit any further progress before the arrival of aid. As all the windows in the upper story of Col. North's house were barred, no assistance could be rendered from the interior; but the inmates of the house adjoining found a way to the roof, and conveyed the voyagers, much injured, by the skylight into a place of safety. They were immediately attended by a surgeon of the neighbourhood. Mr. Graham had a severe scalp wound, his chest bone broken, his collar bone fractured, and several other injuries very serious to a man of sixty-six years of age. Mrs. Graham had a very severe scalp wound, and also a few incised wounds on the face. She has written a letter to say that the accident was entirely owing to the violence of the wind, and that no part of the Crystal Palace was touched by the balloon.

The Neptune steamer, which was specially selected to bring the first portion of the Russian contribution to the Great Exhibition of Industry, has been *Wrecked* on her return voyage, in the Sound of Elsinore. She had

about forty passengers and a very valuable return cargo of goods on board, and made the Elsinore light at about half-past ten at night. When about ten miles beyond Elsinore, she bounced suddenly into a dangerous reef of rocks on that part of the coast called Swine Bottoms, off Loganas, and in about an hour was full of water to her main decks. At her signals boats came off both from the Sweden and Jutland coasts, and all her passengers were safely rescued: some portion of the cargo was also saved.

On the 20th, a *Fire* broke out in the warehouses belonging to Alderman Humphrey, on the Surrey side of London Bridge; an immense pile of buildings six stories high, and 300 feet in length. The fire was discovered about three in the afternoon, when Alderman Humphrey was at the House of Commons engaged on a committee; he heard the rumbling of engines in the street, and enquiring the cause, learned that his own property was on fire. Notwithstanding every exertion, the warehouses were almost wholly destroyed; and the loss of property is supposed to amount to 150,000*l.*; but happily there has been no loss of life. The fire is ascribed to spontaneous combustion.

Two serious *Railway Accidents* have happened on the North Western line. The first was on the evening of the 20th, near the Dutton Viaduct, between Crewe and Warrington. From some cause not yet ascertained the engine was drawn off the line, drawing with it ten or twelve carriages with such force that their progress was stopped by the wheels becoming imbedded up to the axles. Providentially the train had passed a precipitous embankment, and no great injury was done.—The second occurred on the following day near Wolverton, when the train was going northwards. From some unexplained cause the luggage on the top of one of the carriages caught fire, and the flames spread with great rapidity. In one of the compartments of the next carriage behind it were seated Mr. Paxton, Mr. Bass, M.P., and Mr. Cochrane, the superintendent in the building of the Crystal Palace, and Mr. Crampton, the engineer of the Sub-marine Telegraph Company from Dover to Calais, who were on their way to share in the dinner given to Mr. Fox at Derby. They were suddenly startled by hearing shrieks and seeing flakes of fire drifted across the windows of their compartment. Mr. Crampton opened the door, and leaping from carriage to carriage by aid of the footbridge, made his way past that which was in flames, and was approaching the engine, when he was observed by the guard and driver, who, as soon as possible, stopped the train. In the mean time his companions had a narrow escape, for the flames found their way into the compartment which he had left open, and set their clothes on fire in several places. They had the greatest difficulty in extinguishing the sparks and flakes of fire that had found their way in, but beyond some singes and a blister or two no personal injury was suffered. Had it not been for Mr. Crampton's presence of mind, however, very melancholy consequences might have resulted. As it was all the passengers were greatly frightened, and the luggage of several was destroyed.

Another *Railway Accident* of a more melancholy kind happened on the same day. Several hundreds of the scholars, teachers, and friends, connected with the Elton Church Sunday School, had a trip by railway to Blackpool, and 2000 of the members and friends of the Bury Youths' Temperance Association took a trip to Fleetwood. In consequence of the demand for tickets being so great, the railway company could not provide a sufficient supply of passenger carriages, and a number of cattle wagons, &c., were fitted up with seats for the occasion. A young man, named James Entwistle, a mechanic, feeling himself crowded, said to his companions that he would get a little fresh air. He accordingly mounted upon the carriage until his head came in contact with a bridge, and he was forcibly driven into the succeeding carriage; he never spoke more, and died almost immediately. In two hours a coffin was provided, and the body was conveyed to Bury the same day: the accident occurred near Preston.

A *Deadful Accident* happened on the 20th, at the North Side colliery, near Bristol. A portion of the shaft gave way, and from forty to fifty men were buried

alive in the pit. The accident happened about eleven in the morning. By immense exertions means were found to introduce air into the place where they were confined, and, in the course of the following day, they were all dug out alive, almost exhausted from want of air, famine and despair. It is stated that an application will be made to the Secretary of State to send down an inspector of collieries to investigate the causes of an accident which had nearly resulted in so awful a sacrifice of human life, and that that officer will also be requested to examine the state of some other of the West of England collieries, to ascertain if they are being worked upon a safe principle.

SOCIAL, SANITARY, AND MUNICIPAL PROGRESS.

THE *Royal Orthopaedic Hospital* had its seventh anniversary festival on the 31st of May, at the London Tavern, where about 200 gentlemen sat down to dinner. This institution has been established for the treatment of club foot, lateral curvature of the spine, and all tendonous contractions, according to the method first discovered by M. Stromayer, of Hanover, and afterwards introduced into this country. Through its charitable agency many individuals are annually restored to the full use of their limbs, and thus enabled to earn their livelihood, who would otherwise remain helpless and burdensome cripples. The chair was taken by Mr. Quarles Harris, the vice-president of the institution, who took occasion to make some interesting observations on its nature and objects. He said that clubfoot, as everyone knew, was at once disfiguring and disabling, amounting, among the humbler classes, to an almost entire deprivation of the power of earning a living. Formerly the only hope of relief lay in the slow, painful, and uncertain method of lateral and continuous pressure, but it remained for the medical science of the nineteenth century to find a speedy, painless, and effective cure in the division of the tendon, trusting to the first intentions of nature for restoration in a more elongated position. The cure was now, through the great skill and attention of Mr. R. W. Tamplin, the surgeon of the institution, reduced to a certainty. Who could help regretting that their mode of treatment had not existed when Byron found all his days tinged with melancholy, in consequence of his lameness, or that Scott should not have had the means of getting rid of his blemish? But no such regrets need trouble the present generation; relief was to be had, the skilful operator was at hand, and the only other requisite was the generous support of the public. It should be remembered that the treatment of this defect, although sure, was tedious, and consequently expensive; and that, therefore, one patient relieved at the Orthopaedic Institution represented (speaking commercially) ten treated at any other hospital. They were at present able to make up only thirty-six beds, while 300 were constantly knocking at their doors for admission; and it should be also remembered that the cure required a supply of complicated and expensive surgical machinery. Yet, notwithstanding all these drawbacks it would be seen from the report that, during the past year, they had received seventy-nine in-patients, of whom fifty-six were discharged perfectly cured, twenty-three were relieved, and thirty-six still remained under treatment. The total number of in and out-patients was 1455, being an increase over the preceding year of 160, while the total number healed since the establishment of the charity reached the large aggregate of 10,570.—Before the meeting broke up, the lists were read, when it appeared that the year's subscriptions to the hospital and building fund amounted to the handsome total of 2500*l*.

The *National School Society* held its annual meeting on the 4th inst. The Archbishop of Canterbury presided; and the Archbishop of York, the Bishop of London, and ten other members of the Episcopal Bench, a great many other Lords and influential laymen and clergymen, were present. The Reverend G. A. Denison had given notice of a resolution expressing deep regret

that her Majesty's government "continue to disallow the equitable claim" of members of the Church of England, as set forth in the resolution of the Society on the 6th of June, 1849, "That the founders of Church schools, who see fit to place the management of their schools in the clergymen of the parish and the bishop of the diocese, should not on that account be excluded from State assistance towards the building of their schools;" and of a second resolution, declaring that the co-operation and assistance of a parliamentary grant for education should be accepted only if it involved "no interference, direct or indirect, actual or virtual, with the doctrine or discipline of the Church." The chairman opened the proceedings with an earnest deprecation of the discussion which the notice of these amendments prepared him to expect. But Mr. Denison persisted in making his motion; and it was seconded by Mr. A. J. B. Hope, M.P. Sir John Pakington moved an amendment, deprecating any renewal of the agitation which has characterised the recent meetings of the society; and he made a speech strongly urging the fact, that whether right or wrong, these discussions have spread abroad a feeling that it is the intention to exclude the laity from all share even in the secular portion of the education of their poorer neighbours. There was now (he observed) a great movement in favour of secular education; and Churchmen would be wise to follow that movement, and not strengthen the arguments in favour of it by rendering cordial action impossible. A number of gentlemen followed with speeches on each side of the question; in the course of which the excitement of the meeting became considerable. The Bishop of London rose after Mr. Denison's reply,—apologising for his irregularity,—and earnestly deprecated a collision, which he ventured to say would have fatal consequences. He concluded—"And, my reverend brethren, I do earnestly entreat you to put a stop to these discussions in future, by distinctly negating both the resolution and the amendment." His short address produced a deep impression. Sir John Pakington withdrew his amendment, leaving the responsibility of division on Mr. Denison. The resolution was put, and, on a show of hands, Mr. Denison's motion was negated by a large majority; a result which was hailed with great cheering.

The eighth anniversary of the *Gardeners' Benevolent Institution* was celebrated on the 9th, by a dinner at the London Coffee-house. The chair was taken by J. Paxton, Esq., who was supported by Messrs. C. Dickens, Douglas Jerrold, Mark Lemon, and some 150 of the subscribers to the institution. Mr. Douglas Jerrold proposed the health of the Duke of Devonshire, who, having been blessed with abundance, distributed his wealth in the cultivation of science and art, and in the improvement of mankind. The Chairman gave the toast of the day, "The Gardeners' Benevolent Institution." He referred to the ancient history of the Greeks and Romans, to show that as the civilisation of a country progressed, gardening became the favourite recreation of its people.—Mr. Charles Dickens proposed the health of the chairman, to whose genius, as evinced in the designing and carrying out the Great Exhibition, he paid a high compliment. Several other toasts were given, after which a collection of near 300*l*. was made.

A meeting of the constituency of Southwark was held on the 10th, to take into consideration the government bill for *Supplying the Metropolis with Water*. Resolutions, moved by Dr. Challance and Mr. A. Pellatt, were unanimously carried; they were to the following effect:—"That the meeting considered the government bill unfair in principle, and subversive of sanitary improvement, particularly as the water supplied by the companies supported by the bill was unfit for human consumption, and the meeting were prepared by every legal means to prevent its passing into law: And that the water service of London could never be accomplished until under the control of a representative body chosen by the rate-payers, and the meeting would support the principle of Mr. Mowatt's bill, which was designed to carry this out. A petition to parliament, founded on these resolutions, was agreed to, and Sir William Molesworth was requested to present it.

A fancy bazaar was held on the 12th at the Hanover

square Rooms, in aid of the funds of the *Hahnemann Hospital*, Bloomsbury-square. The various articles exhibited for sale consisted chiefly of works of industry in the different departments of the art of fancy needle-work, contributed by lady friends of the institution (both in the metropolis and the provinces), who had either themselves derived benefit from the Homœopathic system, or had been convinced of the soundness of the principles on which it is founded, and were desirous to extend its operation. The stalls were presided over by the Countess of Wilton, the Viscountess Newport, Lady Robert Grosvenor, Mrs. Leslie, Mrs. Barnaby, Mrs. Everest, and other ladies of distinction.

The Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts celebrated its hundred and fiftieth anniversary on the 17th, by a jubilee commemoration in St. Martin's Hall. Prince Albert, who presided, opened the proceedings with the following address, which made a great impression:—"My Lords, Ladies, and Gentlemen!—We are assembled here to-day in order to celebrate the third jubilee of the foundation of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts, incorporated by royal charter, and one of the chief sources of the spiritual aid which the Established Church affords to our extensive Colonial dependencies. We are not commemorating, however, an isolated fact which may have been glorious or useful to the country, but we are thankfully acknowledging the Divine favour which has attended exertions which have been unremitting during the lapse of one hundred and fifty years. We are met, at the same time, to invoke the farther continuance of that favour, pledging ourselves not to relax in our efforts to extend to those of our brethren who are settled in distant lands, building up communities and states where man's footsteps had first to be imprinted on the soil, and wild nature yet to be conquered to his use, those blessings of Christianity which form the foundation of our community and of our state. This society was first chartered by that great man William the Third—the greatest Sovereign this country has to boast of; by whose sagacity and energy was closed that bloody struggle for civil and religious liberty which had so long been convulsing this country, and there were secured to us the inestimable advantages of our constitution and of our Protestant faith. Having thus placed the country upon a safe basis at home, he could boldly meet her enemies abroad, and contribute to the foundation of that colonial empire which forms so important a part of our present greatness: and honour be to him for his endeavour to place this foundation upon the rock of the Church! The first jubilee of the society fell in times when religious apathy had succeeded to the over-excitement of the preceding age. Lax morals and a sceptical philosophy began to undermine the Christian faith, treating with indifference, and even with ridicule, the most sacred objects. Still this society persevered in its labours with unremitting zeal; turning its chief attention to the North American continent, where a young and vigorous society was rapidly growing into a people. The second jubilee found this country in a most critical position. She had obtained by the peace of Amiens a moment's respite from the tremendous contest in which she had been engaged with her continental rival, and which she had soon to renew in order to maintain her own existence, and to secure a permanent peace to Europe. Since the last jubilee, the American colonies, which had originally been peopled chiefly by British subjects who had left their homes to escape the yoke of religious intolerance and oppression, had thrown off their allegiance to the mother country in defence of civil rights, the attachment to which they had carried with them from the British soil. Yet this society was not dismayed, but, in a truly Christian spirit, continued its labours in the neighbouring North American and West Indian settlements. This, the third jubilee, falls in a happier epoch, when peace is established in Europe, and religious fervour is rekindled, and at an auspicious moment, when we are celebrating a festival of the civilisation of mankind, to which all quarters of the globe have contributed their productions and are sending their people—for the first time recognising their advancement as a common good, their interests as identical, their mission on earth the same. And this civilisation rests

on Christianity—could only be raised on Christianity—can only be maintained by Christianity; the blessings of which are now carried by this society to the vast territories of India and Australasia, which last are again to be peopled by the Anglo-Saxon race. While we have thus to congratulate ourselves upon our state of temporal prosperity—harmony at home and peace abroad—we cannot help deploring that the Church, whose exertions for the progress of Christianity and civilisation we are to-day acknowledging, should be afflicted by internal dissensions and attacks from without. I have no fear, however, for her safety and ultimate welfare, so long as she holds fast to what our ancestors gained for us at the Reformation—the Gospel and the unfettered right of its use. The dissensions and difficulties which we witness in this, as in every other Church, arise from the natural and necessary conflict of the two antagonistic principles which move human society in Church as well as State—I mean the principles of individual liberty, and of allegiance and submission to the will of the community, exacted for its own preservation. These two conflicting principles cannot be disregarded—they must be reconciled. To this country belongs the honour of having succeeded in this mighty task as far as the state is concerned, while other nations are wrestling with it. And I feel persuaded that the same earnest zeal and practical wisdom which have made her political constitution an object of admiration to other nations, will, under God's blessing, make her Church likewise a model to the world. Let us look upon this assembly as a token of future hope; and may the harmony which reigns among us at this moment, and which we owe to having met in furtherance of a common holy object, be, by the Almighty, permanently bestowed upon the Church."—The Bishop of London, in moving a resolution of thankful acknowledgments to Almighty God, expressed his trust that the successful issue of the Great Exhibition of Industry will tend to remove the antipathies which too frequently exist between the inhabitants of neighbouring countries.—Lord John Russell sketched the rise of large and populous communities founded by the British people in America and Australia; and observed, that to the Englishman there can hardly be a more sublime contemplation than that the pure and simple language of the Bible, in its English form, is the book in which millions in this age, and many more millions in succeeding ages, will seek comfort on every subject which can most interest them here and hereafter. Earl Grey moved a resolution, that it is incumbent on the Church of the mother-country, so long as it shall be necessary, to assist in providing for her emigrant children the ministrations of religion. Mr. Sidney Herbert, in seconding this motion, observed, that emigration from this country is becoming enormous, upwards of half a million of persons having left our shores within the last two years.—The Bishop of Oxford moved a resolution affirming that the best hope of foreign missions is in a native ministry.—Sir Robert Inglis, the Duke of Newcastle, the Earl of Harrowby, and the Bishop of Tennessee, spoke to other resolutions bearing on special objects of the society. A laudatory tribute to the Chairman from the Archbishop of Canterbury, President of the society, and a reply by the Prince, closed the speeches; and the meeting separated with the archiepiscopal benediction.

Cathedral services at Westminster Abbey and St. Paul's formed a portion of the religious celebrations of the jubilee. The service in the Abbey took place on the 16th, and that in St. Paul's on the 18th. In St. Paul's, full choral service was given by the members of the two Metropolitan choirs and the choirs of the Chapels Royal at St. James's and Windsor. A great many foreigners were present.

In the evening of the 18th, the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress gave a grand entertainment to about 170 of the members of the Propagation Society, in the Mansion-house. The Archbishop of Canterbury, the Bishops of London and Oxford, and several other prelates, were present.

At the annual meeting of *The Law Amendment Society* on the 18th, Lord Brougham read the following very important extract of a letter from Lord Denman, on the effect of the county courts in superseding the higher

courts of common law; "I take the fact to be clear, that the public decidedly prefers the County Courts to the Common Law Courts in Westminster Hall for the trial of causes. The proof of this fact, that the former tribunals swarm with suitors while the latter are almost deserted, involves another fact of a more general nature, the destitution of the bar; the ruin of many now in business; the disappointment of many more in their just expectations; and finally, the annihilation of a most valuable class of society, as it has existed for the advantage of the public.

"If the interest of the bar come in competition with that of the public, there cannot be one moment's hesitation as to which must be sacrificed. Neither that nor any other set of men has any vested right in misgovernment or maladministration—no privilege to defeat, or even delay for a single hour, well-considered improvements. Could we suppose a legal system so perfect and so justly appreciated that all persons would spontaneously act right on all occasions, from knowing that otherwise the law would force them promptly to do so, and the community would enjoy the greatest blessing ascribed by Horace to the rule of Augustus, 'forum litibus orbum'—the barrister must turn his powers to some other account, nor breathe a murmur, nor ask a farthing of compensation, still less demand, the restoration of the bad old system.

"But a state that should make one of its tribunals cheap and efficient, while it condemned another to a dilatory, expensive course of procedure and trial, would be deemed doubly impolitic and regardless of the people's welfare: first, in declining to place both on the most favourable footing for the attainment of justice; but secondly, in the reduction that must follow of those learned men who formerly practised in the court now so fatally eclipsed, and formed a body capable of effectual resistance to oppression and of guarding the rights of all.

"I might dwell on the value of the bar in collateral respects,—in the service of public departments, in the various relations of private society, in furnishing a constant succession of gentlemen competent to fill the judicial office, through all its ranks, up to the most arduous and elevated seats of justice. The education and habits of the bar have formed the present judges of the Common Law Courts, as well as the Recorders and other presidents in local jurisdiction.

"The fact I first noticed—the favour acquired by these inferior jurisdictions at the expense of the superior—is not merely to be traced to the power of examining parties. There is still a more operative, because a grosser and more palpable cause of the same notorious effect—the enormous costs imposed on suitors in the Superior Courts.

"Can we expect a sane man to resort to a court which refuses to hear him and his adversary—possibly the only two persons in the world who know the truth—and which makes him pay 20*l.* for admission into its precincts; when in another court, close at hand and always sitting, he may state his own rights as he understands them, call his antagonist to disclose the whole merits of the disputed transaction, and finally recover his own at a twentieth part of the cost?

"The evil points out its own remedy. If we are right in our premises, and suitors keep aloof from courts of unimpeachable knowledge and integrity because they are exclusive and expensive, the conclusion is obvious. Make them open to receive information from all, and cheap enough to be accessible to all, and the same amount of business will be found to flock thither as was seen there before this unexpected rivalry was created by the Legislature.

"I cannot help feeling sanguine in my hopes for the success of your great measure for receiving the evidence of parties, and looking at the names and characters of the enlightened Commissioners for inquiring into practices and pleading, I fully anticipate such a reform of abuse, such a sweeping abolition of fiction and verbiage—those pets of English lawyers—the establishment of such a natural and intelligible course of procedure in our courts, as will be satisfactory to the public and conducive both to the honour and interest of our profession."

In the course of the discussion which followed the reading of the report and this letter, Mr. Hume suggested that if the letter were published, it would have a strong effect in favour of the measure now before the House of Lords for making parties witnesses. Lord Brougham intimated that he did not take a gloomy view of the chance of that bill; but he had the permission of Lord Denman to read the letter, and if need be he would read it in his place in the House of Lords. Mr. Bethel and Mr. Lowe moved and seconded a resolution—"That it is highly desirable that a school of law and jurisprudence should be founded in connexion with the Society for Promoting the Amendment of the Law." It was unanimously adopted; and resolutions were also carried in favour of appointing a Minister of Justice or a department connected with the law; and for appointing a committee to forward the project of an international commercial code.

A *Re-valuation of the Duke of Rutland's Estates* has taken place in consequence of the complaints of some of his Grace's tenantry; and the result is stated to be a small decrease only on the total rental. It is added that the effect of the valuation on the tenants whose complaints led to the re-valuation, has been a considerable increase of rent.

The Duke of Wellington has *Abated the Rents* of his Strathfieldsaye estates. His Grace inquired of the steward if he had made any abatement of the rentals. The steward replied that he had not, for the tenants had all paid cheerfully, without asking for any reduction. The Duke replied that was the very reason why the abatement should be made, and he directed that it should be made on the last, as well as on the rentals of the current year.

The new act of parliament *Regulating the Sale of Arsenic* has come into operation. It enacts that on the sale of arsenic the particulars of the sale are to be entered in a book by the seller in the form set out in the schedule, containing the date of sale, the name and surname of the purchaser, his place of abode and occupation, the quantity sold, and the purpose for which it was required. No arsenic is to be sold to any person unknown, unless in the presence of a witness, and arsenic is not to be sold except to a person of full age. For offending against the act a penalty of not more than 20*l.* by justices is to be imposed. The act is not to prevent the sale of arsenic in medicine under a medical prescription. The term arsenic is to include all arsenious compounds.

A general measure for the *Compulsory Prepayment by Stamps* of all prepaid letters posted in the United Kingdom, is about to be adopted. As a preparation for it, all the post-masters in the kingdom are now allowed an immense stock of postage stamps of all descriptions on credit, and they are compelled to ascertain daily that every letter receiver in their official districts has a sufficient supply on hand for the accommodation of the public. The value of the whole of these stamps, now furnished on credit to the various officials in the country, is not less than a quarter of a million of money.

The following are the *Gross Receipts of the Great Exhibition*, from its opening on the 1st of May to the 13th instant, inclusive:—

	£	s.
Total amount from daily visitors up to 31st May.....	57,990	1
Season tickets up to 31st May.....	65,871	15
For the week ending June 7.....	13,431	2
Season tickets during the same week.....	105	0
Monday, June 9.....	2,438	6
Tuesday, June 10.....	2,851	11
Wednesday, June 11.....	2,164	13
Thursday, June 12.....	2,249	2
Friday, June 13.....	2,246	3
Subscriptions.....	64,344	0
For privilege of printing the catalogues.....	3,206	0
For privilege of supplying refreshments.....	5,500	0
Total received up to June 13, inclusive.....	221,821	13
The liabilities of the Royal Commissioners are:		
For the building complete.....	130,000	0
Management, printing, &c.....	25,000	0
Police.....	10,000	0
Prize fund.....	20,000	0
	£185,000	0

The following is the result of the *Census of 1851*, as given by the Registrar-General, so far as they concern England, Scotland, and the Islands in the British Seas: the numbers for Ireland will not be known for some time. The present census was taken on the 31st March, 1851.—

	HOUSES.			POPULATION.		
	Inhabited.	Uninhabited.	Building.	Persons.	Males.	Females.
Great Britain, & Islands in the British Seas . .	3,675,451	165,603	29,109	20,919,531	10,184,687	10,734,844
England & Wales	3,276,975	152,570	36,329	17,005,891	8,751,554	9,151,277
Scotland	376,560	11,356	2,378	2,870,784	1,363,422	1,507,162
Islands in the British Seas . .	21,326	1,077	202	142,516	66,511	76,405
London	307,722	16,889	4,817	2,363,141	1,104,358	1,258,783

The previous Census was taken on the 7th of June, 1841:—

	HOUSES.			POPULATION.		
	Inhabited.	Uninhabited.	Building.	Persons.	Males.	Females.
Great Britain, & Islands in the British Seas . .	3,465,981	198,123	30,334	18,065,981	9,074,642	9,581,339
England & Wales	2,943,939	174,370	27,408	15,911,757	7,776,234	8,136,533
Scotland	502,862	24,026	2,646	2,620,184	1,241,562	1,378,322
Islands in the British Seas . .	19,190	869	220	124,040	57,556	63,484
London	262,737	11,324	4,032	1,948,309	912,001	1,036,308

The Registrar-General appends the following note,—“The Army in Great Britain, and the Navy, merchant seamen, and other persons on board vessels in the ports, are included in the return for 1851; the Navy, merchant seamen, and persons on board vessels, were not included in 1841. The apparent decrease of houses in Scotland between 1841 and 1851, is attributable to the fact, that in 1841 flats or stories were reckoned in many places as ‘houses;’ in the present census the more correct definition has been employed.”

The sixth annual meeting of the *Metropolitan Association for Improving the Dwellings of the Poor* was held on the 14th. Sir Ralph Howard, Bart., in the chair. The Chairman gave a favourable account of its progress. Though one of the buildings (that in Albert Street) was not filling so quickly as might have been expected, yet the capital embarked was now giving a remunerative return; and there was no reason to doubt but that the association would ultimately accomplish its object. Viscount Ebrington owned he was disappointed at the result of the experiment in Albert Street, for he certainly did anticipate that the single men of the labouring classes, seeing the low rate at which so much comfort and such admirable arrangements were placed within their reach, would gladly avail themselves of the opportunity there offered them. But it was difficult to communicate to the classes which most needed the information that such accommodation was to be obtained at such small cost. Dr. Southwood Smith gave a striking account of the salubrity of the Metropolitan buildings. During the last year there were only seven deaths out of 571 residents; being a rate of mortality of 1·2 per cent., or one-third less than the mortality of Lewisham, the healthiest district of the metropolis, and one-half less than the mortality of the parish (St. Pancras) in which the establishment is situated. Out of 352 children there were only four deaths, or 1·1 per cent.; proving that the children enjoy a degree of health almost unexampled; the general mortality among children in the metropolis under fifteen years of age, on an average of five years, being 3·4 per cent., or more than three times greater than in this establishment. During the late epidemic there was not a single case of cholera in the establishment, though at a distance from it of not more than four hundred yards three deaths occurred in one

house; and in one spot within a space of two hundred feet in length there were no fewer than twenty fatal cases. Within the last two months seventy-two cases of fever had been received into the Fever Hospital from the courts in Gray’s-inn Lane alone, eleven from one house, and twenty cases were stated to have occurred in a single house in Tindall’s buildings. Yet there had not been a single case of fever in the Metropolitan buildings from their first opening three years ago; nor had a single case of fever occurred in any similar establishment in the metropolis, including even the lodging houses for single men. These facts (said Dr. Smith) more than realised the most sanguine expectations of the efficacy of sanitary arrangements in the prevention of disease, and proved that typhus and other forms of fever were more under our control than any one had been prepared to expect. They afford the highest reward for past exertions and the best encouragement to perseverance.

PERSONAL NARRATIVE.

THE Queen held a levee on the 28th of May. It was more crowded than any levee for several years past. Many presentations took place in the diplomatic circle, including several noblemen and gentlemen officially connected with the Great Exhibition. The Earl of Roden presented three addresses from Ireland, one signed by fifty thousand persons. In the evening, the Queen gave a concert at Buckingham Palace, to which upwards of three hundred persons were invited. Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Tennyson, Mr. Samuel Rogers, and Dr. and Mrs. Whewell, were among the company.

The Queen’s 32nd birthday was celebrated on Saturday the 31st, instead of the 24th, of May. Her Majesty held a drawing-room, and in the evening there were brilliant illuminations.

On Monday, the 2nd inst., the Court left London for Windsor, to be nearer to the races on Ascot Heath, which the Sovereign never omits to patronise. A large party of royal visitors and of English guests accompanied the Court to Windsor, or proceeded to the Castle in a day or two after. The Queen’s party was present at the races on Tuesday and on Thursday. On each day the Queen gave banquets, and evening parties, at which appeared several of the Ministers, and a great number of the English nobility.

The King of the Belgians, with his children, the Duke de Brabant, the Count de Flandres, and the Princess Charlotte, arrived on the 18th at Buckingham Palace, on a visit to the Queen.

The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress gave a scientific and literary conversation in the magnificent rooms of the Mansion-house, on the 4th inst. Most of the Foreign Ministers, and of the eminent foreign visitors now in London, a number of the aristocracy associated with science and literature, and a crowd of professors and literateurs, were present; altogether, the assemblage is estimated at nearly fifteen hundred. Topics of conversation were suggested by the display of articles of vertu, and of scientific antiquarian interest, and by a beautiful collection of ship-building models, lent for the occasion by the Lords of the Admiralty.

The subscription at Liverpool to the Rushton testimonial, which amounts to £500L., has been closed, and the sum has been placed in Heywood’s bank, to be disposed of as the family of the deceased Stipendiary may desire.

Kossuth and his fellow captives still continue at Kutayah. The great Magyar is said to be in good health, but much broken in spirit, owing to his long captivity. He has again been promised his liberty, in September next, by the Turkish government; but faith has so repeatedly been broken with him through the machinations of Austria, and Russia, that there is no certainty when he will be suffered to go at large. Kossuth’s wife and child are with him, and about twenty-five Hungarians, who are still prisoners in Kutayah. There are now remaining prisoners in the Turkish dominions about forty Hungarians.

Mr. Deas has been appointed her Majesty’s Solicitor General for Scotland, in the room of Mr. John Cowan,

who has been appointed a Lord of Session, in the vacancy caused by the death of Lord Dundrennan.

Obituary of Notable Persons.

CAROLINE HENRIETTA SHERIDAN, daughter of Colonel Callander of Craigforth and widow of Thomas Sheridan, Esq., died at the house of her daughter, Lady Dufferin, on the 9th inst. Mrs. Sheridan was the author of several literary works of merit.

SIR J. GRAHAM DALZELL, BART., died on the 7th inst., at his residence in Edinburgh, aged seventy-seven years. The deceased was well known in the literary and scientific world. He was president of the Society for promoting Useful Arts in Scotland, vice-president of the African Institute of Paris, and author of several works on science and history, and of various articles in the "Encyclopædia Britannica."

THE ARCHDEACON OF DUBLIN, DR. JOHN TORRENS, died, after a long illness, on the 9th inst., in the eighty-third year of his age.

VISCOUNT MELVILLE, died on the 10th inst., at Melville Castle, near Lasswade, in the county of Edinburgh.

THOMAS MAITLAND, LORD DUNDRENNAN, one of the Scottish judges, died on the 10th inst., at his residence, George Street, Edinburgh.

VICE-ADMIRAL SIR CHARLES MALCOLM, died at Brighton on the 14th inst., in the sixty-ninth year of his age.

SIR DAVID SCOTT, BART., K.H., died on the 18th inst., at Gloucester Place.

SIR CHARLES BANNERMAN of Elsieck, died on the 18th inst. He was the eighth baronet of the family, which is of considerable antiquity, being descended from the hereditary banner-bearers of the Kings of Scotland in the 10th and 11th centuries.

We have to record the death, at the age of eighty-eight, of Mr. THOMAS WRIGHT HILL, one of the great improvers of education during the present century. Hazelwood School, near Birmingham, established by Mr. Hill, was the most successful, as it was the first, large experiment made in this country, as to the practicability of governing boys by other principles than that of terror, of extending the range of scholastic acquirements beyond a superficial knowledge of the learned languages, and of making the acquisition of sound knowledge not only a duty but a delight.

THE RIGHT HON. RICHARD LALOR SHEIL, British Minister at Florence, died there on the 25th of May, of gout in the stomach.

THE EARL OF SNAPESTON died on the 2nd inst., at his seat in Dorsetshire, in his eighty-third year.

LIEUT.-GEN. SIR JOHN GARDNER, K.C.B., Colonel of the 6th Regiment, died at his residence in Eaton Place, on the 6th inst.

COLONIES AND DEPENDENCIES.

THE rebellion at the Cape does not appear to have yet received any decisive check, though such successes as are reported are invariably on the side of the regular troops; but the step taken by the home government in sending out a commission of inquiry to the Colony itself, not simply with reference to the present strife and its causes, but to decide how far such calamities and losses may be avoidable in future, is generally admitted to be a sound act of policy. The only other prominent subject in the month's news from our distant dependencies is the remarkable trial, at Agra, of the Hindoo agent and contractor, Jotee Persaud; which, in its bearing on the existing government of India, is worth study for the curious points of resemblance as well as contrast which it presents to those famous cases against the government of Warren Hastings, which the imperishable eloquence of Edmund Burke preserves still in all the most vivid colouring of their time.

The latest intelligence from *India* and *China* is of no political interest. Tranquillity prevails in every part of India. The Governor-General was to be at Simlah by the 12th of May, and was expected to proceed thence to Kunawar, in the Himalayahs, and on the return of cold weather to Calcutta. Sir William Gomm has purchased a house at Simlah, where he intends to reside during his term of service in India.

On the western frontier of the Punjab the robberies and murders continue to be committed by the hill tribes. The payment of black mail, on some parts of the immense line open to their depredations, has only served to encourage their system of aggression. A hope had been entertained that decided operations would have been determined on by the Governor-General during his stay at Peshawur; but matters appear to be nearly in the same position as six months ago.

There has been another case of ship burning at Calcutta, attended with a dreadful sacrifice of human life. The country ship Kurramany, proceeding down the river, bound to Mauritius with upwards of 350 Coolie emigrants on board, was burnt to the water's edge on the night of the 6th of May, when off Kedgeroe. The captain (Hogg), the chief mate, and the pilot, together with about one-half of the crew and a few of the emigrants, have alone been saved. Upwards of 300 unfortunate people perished by drowning and in the flames. There seems to be no doubt that this was the work of incendiaries.

A great sensation has been produced by the trial, in the criminal court at Agra, of Jotee Persaud, a wealthy Hindoo banker, on the charges of *Swindling* and *Perjury*. He had held contracts for supplying the commissariats of the Indian armies during the campaigns in Cabool and against the Sikhs, and his claims against the government reached the sum of 570,000*l*. After the restoration of peace, he was unable to obtain any settlement of his accounts, and at length, after repeated postponements and vexatious delays, he gave notice of a civil action against the government in the supreme court of Calcutta. This was met by a cross action against him on the ground that his accounts contained fraudulent overcharges; and as his agent had sworn to

the correctness of his impeached accounts, he himself was indicted for perjury committed through the medium of his servant. After a trial of twelve days the utter groundlessness of every charge against him was fully established, and a verdict of acquittal was given, with the unanimous concurrence of public opinion.

There is little news in the *West India* papers. The cholera still lingered in Jamaica, and had appeared in several places hitherto exempt. At Mountain Valley the people had refused to bury their dead. The Jamaica and Trinidad papers speak in high terms of the state of the weather and the prospects of the crops.

Advices from the *Ionian Islands* state that the Lord High Commissioner has prorogued the parliament to the 8th of October next.

The *Canadian Parliament* met at Toronto on the 20th May. The Governor-general stated in his speech that the revenue from customs and canals is increasing; that the alteration of the Post-office rates has been followed by a great increase in letters; and that the change in the Imperial Navigation-laws has increased the resort of foreign shipping to Canadian ports; but that the Emigration act provokes complaint, as unfavourable to the import trade of the colony. The arbitrators appointed to settle the boundary dispute with New Brunswick have reported. A measure will be introduced for reducing the civil list, and an increase in Parliamentary representation is recommended; also amendments in the school and municipal laws of Lower Canada.

On the 23rd, the Government suffered a defeat: it resisted a motion to introduce a bill for preventing the expenditure of public money not authorised by the Parliament, and was outvoted by 26 to 25.

There are advices from the *Cape of Good Hope* to the 2nd of May. The most important intelligence is the defection of Kreili, a powerful chief, who has openly

joined the Kaffirs. Lientenant and Adjutant Fletcher, of the 73rd regiment, was killed in a skirmish on the 16th of April. His body was found pierced by twenty assegays. Sir Harry Smith, accompanied by Colonel Mackinnon, had returned to King Williams Town from an expedition against the enemy. This expedition consisted of a series of movements from the 18th to the 25th of March, among which was the repulse of the enemy, about 2000 strong, on the 19th, and their flight into the Amatola Mountains. The operations of the month of April were confined to patrolling, the enemy's cattle having been driven into the Amatas, and the enemy nowhere to be seen in great force.

PROGRESS OF EMIGRATION AND COLONISATION.

It is stated that a large number of the best and most experienced of the men employed in the extensive slate-quarries in North Wales are preparing to emigrate, during the course of the ensuing summer, to the United States. The rate of payment in the American quarries is nearly three times greater than the amount which can be realised in the Welsh workings. Several

instances have recently occurred where men who left their native land deeply involved in debt have been enabled to remit the amount of their debts in full.

The amount of emigration from Ireland has not been much, if at all, diminished, although it might be expected that the small farmers were in general waiting to gather in the present harvest and take its produce with them across the Atlantic. It is said that the thinning of the congregations in the Roman Catholic chapels of some districts has become most remarkable; and that it is even perceptible in the Protestant churches.

Mr. Robert Faussett, a magistrate of the county of Sligo, was among the emigrants from Sligo to America last week. Persons of a respectable class are now almost daily found adopting the same course.

A consequence of the extent of Irish emigration is apparent in the decrease of pauperism. The diminution in the number of paupers receiving relief is perceptible in almost every union in Ireland, and, in some, to a very remarkable extent. In Sligo the decrease within the year is nearly to the extent of one-half, the number in the house on the 17th of June this year being 1775, while on the same day last year it was 3322, showing a decrease of 1547.

NARRATIVE OF FOREIGN EVENTS.

THE revision of the French constitution so as to admit of the re-election of Louis Napoleon to the French presidency, is the only continental topic that 'stirs' just now, and it hardly amounts to an agitation. The Frankfort Diet sits quietly and talks just as it used to do five and twenty years ago. The Police in Italy has resumed its function of entering houses of the 'suspected' night and day, precisely as in the good old time. Quiet men otherwise obedient to their governments are carried off to prisons, or condemned to banishment in the marshes, for being caught at the study of Diodati's translation of the New Testament in Florence or Rome. Even the Paris police appears to have been re-instated in all its ancient rights interrupted by the two last revolutions, for a man who writes an article on an abstract point of civil or criminal jurisprudence can now be fined and elapped in prison as easily as in the pleasant old days of Charles Dix and the Jesuits. Such is the present condition of the continent; while, beyond it, our American cousins are said to be illustrating their views of national liberty and inter-national honesty, by planning another piratical expedition against Cuba. Altogether an agreeable prospect.

The political intelligence from France relates chiefly to the disputes, in and out of the Assembly, on the various questions connected with the revision of the Constitution, which continues to be the subject of absorbing interest. The president, on the occasion of the inauguration of the railway between Dijon and Tonnerre, on the 2nd instant, made the following remarkable speech, which has produced a great sensation throughout the country:—"Gentlemen—I wish those persons who have doubts as to the future could have accompanied me in my journey through the populations of the Yonne and the Cote d'Or; they would have been able to have judged for themselves of the true state of public opinion. They would have seen that neither intrigues, nor the attacks, nor the passionate discussions of parties are in harmony with the sentiments and with the condition of the country. France neither desires the return of the *ancien régime*, under whatever form it may disguise itself, nor the experiment of sad and impracticable Utopian schemes. It is because I am the most natural enemy of both one and the other, that France has placed confidence in me. If this were not the case, how could we explain the affecting sympathy of the people towards me, which resists the most subversive polemics, and which acquits me of being the cause of their sufferings. If my government has not been able to realise all the ameliorations which it had in view, we must attribute the failure to the manoeuvres of the factions, who paralyse the good intentions of assemblies as well as that of governments most devoted to the public welfare. It is because you have thus comprehended the state of the question, that I have had, in patriotic Burgundy, a reception which is for me an approbation and an encouragement. I take advantage of this banquet, as of a tribune, to exhibit, to lay bare my heart before my fellow citizens. A new phasis has

commenced in our political life; from one end of France to the other, petitions are being signed for the revision of the constitution. I await with confidence the manifestations of the country and the decisions of the Assembly, which will be inspired only by the sentiment of the public interest. Since I have been in power I have proved how much, in presence of the great interests of society, I set aside all that had effected me personally. The most unjust and the most violent attacks could not shake my equanimity. Whatever may be the duties which the country may impose upon me, it shall find me resolved to obey its will; and be assured, gentlemen, that France shall not perish in my hands."

On the 4th inst., a French court-martial at Rome condemned to death four men belonging to a Roman patrol who had been provoked by the insults of a French patrol to attack them in the streets. Three others were condemned to hard labour for five years, and one for life. Two of the men were shot on the 12th, in the Piazza del Popolo.

A great review of troops took place in the Champ de Mars on the 21st. The president appeared at the head of a numerous staff, and his reception, by an immense concourse of people, was indicative of great popularity. The predominant cry was "Vive Napoleon," with occasional cries of "Vive la République" and "Vive la Révision." No disorders occurred.

The Court of Assizes has given sentence by default against Ledru-Rollin in the matters of the publication of two pamphlets, entitled respectively, "Le 24 Fevrier—Les Elections," and "Le 13 Juin." The former was lithographed at Brussels, and the other printed in London. The author was sentenced to two years' imprisonment and 1000 francs fine.

M. Hugo, son of Victor Hugo, has been sentenced to six months' imprisonment and 500 francs fine, for

writing an article in the "Événement" condemning capital punishments.

Two *Political Duels* have taken place at Paris. Charles Bonaparte, Prince of Canino, having been accused, in a book written by Viscount d'Arincourt, of having instigated the murder of Count Rossi, at Rome, the son of Count Rossi, excited by these imputations, lay in wait for the Prince, and, having met him, aimed a blow at his face. This led to a rencontre, and, after the exchange of a couple of pistol shots each, the seconds interfered, and put a stop to the affair. The prince declared that the assertion of his having participated in the death of Count Rossi was a disgraceful calumny, and M. Rossi expressed his regret at having been moved by it.—The second duel was between Count Nieuwenkerke, Director of the Museum in the Louvre, and Pierre Bonaparte, one of the representatives of the people for the Ardèche. The dispute arose out of the duel described above, Pierre Bonaparte being the brother of Canino, and both sons of Lucien, brother of the emperor. The parties fought with the small sword, and after Count Nieuwenkerke had received a wound in the thigh, the seconds declared the affair at an end.

A *Fatal Duel* has taken place near Boulogne. Six Frenchmen left London to settle a dispute between two of them on some political question. They entered a rabbit warren, and the duellists fired, first at twenty-five, and again at twenty paces. At the second fire one of them fell. The five survivors returned hastily to Boulogne, and embarked for London in the night. The deceased, named Petit, was foreman to a London tailor. His body was found by the authorities lying on its back. There were no watch, money, nor papers, save a book with the deceased's name and place of birth, and a passport. Upon his breast was laid a fine cambric handkerchief, on a corner of which the initials "R. B." surmounted by a coronet, were worked.

The war in *Algeria* opened on the part of the French with severe losses and dreadful carnage. In the advance of a column five or six thousand strong on Djijelli, Colonel Arnaud is admitted to have sacrificed more soldiers than were lost by Marshal Bugeaud in his two expeditions against the great tribes of the Kabyles, and in all the campaigns of 1845 in Oran and Algiers. Two companies of the 10th fell into an ambush, and lost 200 men, with 5 officers. The whole number killed is stated at 300. On the next day after their bloody encounter, the troops had to march between a grisly perspective of heads of their slain comrades, which their ferocious enemies had stuck on poles during the night, to dismay them in their harassed march. Terrible, on the other hand, has been the retaliation. On the 15th of May, twelve villages were burned; on the 17th, thirty, and by the last accounts it appears that the Kabyles have submitted. When it is remembered that these Kabyles are not nomad tribes of Bedouins, but hardy independent mountaineers, who are addicted to agriculture, the destruction of their settlements rouses a strong feeling of compassion.

At *Hamburg*, there has been a serious collision between the inhabitants of the St. Pauli suburb of that town and the Austrian garrison. A quarrel arose between the soldiers and some of the sailors who chiefly inhabit that suburb, and the soldiers had the worst of it; they returned with assistance, and there arose such a general battle that a body of armed soldiers was marched to the spot by the officers. The mob refused to disperse, were menaced by discharges of unshot guns, and then were fired on. Six were killed and twenty wounded; and when the military supremacy was asserted, it was maintained by the entry of a large additional Austrian force. The whole proceedings have been condemned by the Hamburg Municipality; and the proceedings of the Austrian commander-in-chief in billeting fresh troops on the town without preliminary forms, is protested against as a breach of the laws of the confederation. It is said that the municipality has forwarded its protest to the French and English governments, as parties to the treaty of Vienna, who have guaranteed the independence of the free German cities.

The Emperor of Austria has just appointed M. Aaron Wolfgang Messeley, a Jew, to the office of Professor of

Criminal Law at the University of Prague. This gentleman had long filled the chair of the Hebrew language and literature in the same university. The number of Jews now attached as professors to the different universities and educational establishments in the Austrian states is seventeen; of whom fifteen were named by the late emperor, and two by the present.

Much irritation has been recently created in *Schleswig* by the strictness of the regulations for saluting Danish officers. The people turned them into ridicule by bestowing the same formal marks of reverence upon all the animals they met. The order has since been revoked.

A violent outrage has been perpetrated in *Florence*; the aggressors being the Tuscan authorities, supported by Austrian bayonets, and the victims certain peaceable Italians who assembled in the church of Santa Croce, in Florence, on the 29th of May, for the purpose of hearing a service in honour of their deceased relatives who fell at the battles of Curtatone and Montanara. The church was filled with men, women, and children—and the solemnity of devotion prevailed, when several gendarmes, dressed in plain clothes, approached the tomb-stone, inscribed with the names of the slain, where old men and children, aged matrons and young maidens, were scattering wreaths of flowers and shedding tears. Without any provocation, these men began to strike right and left with their sticks this inoffensive and sorrowful group. The alarm thus raised, Austrians and gendarmes appeared with their muskets on several points of the church, as if by enchantment, the former pushing with their bayonets the peaceful and unarmed crowd before them. A scene of confusion ensued which it would be impossible to describe. When on the square before the church, the greater portion of the thousands assembled were making the best of their way to their homes, a company of carbiniers or gendarmes received orders to fire, which they immediately did. In this brutal assault two of the people were killed and seven or eight wounded.

Accounts from *Naples* describe the whole population as being in a state of alarm, owing to the innumerable arrests which are again taking place in every class or society. The victims are connected, or supposed to be connected, with the expulsion from Naples of the Jesuits; others are accused of having excited the lower orders to shout "Long live the Constitution!" whilst a third group of offenders belong to the disasters of May, 1848. The crown lawyer is in fact employed in tracing the origin of the constitutional struggle, and instructed to incorporate in a criminal *processo* all who have taken part in the movement, which ended in his Majesty swearing to maintain a free representative government. As the prisons are cleared of one set of offenders, another takes their place, and thus with exile, imprisonment, and persecution, whole families are ruined.

The dates from *New York* are to the 10th inst. The political intelligence is not important.—The President and Mr. Webster have been making a tour through several of the States; and it is observed that generally Mr. Webster has been received with the greater enthusiasm. The seventh census of the United States has been published; the following are the results: In the Free States, 13,533,328 freemen, 119 slaves; in the Slave States, 6,393,757 freemen, 3,175,783 slaves; in the Districts and Territories, 160,824 freemen, 3687 slaves; total population, 23,267,498. The whole number of representatives in Congress is 233, and of these the Free States have now gained an increased apportionment.

A great sensation has been created in several towns of the United States, in consequence of many ladies resolving upon a complete revolution in dress. In every direction we hear of young ladies wearing trousers with a very short shirt or tunic, as in Persia and the East.

There was an earthquake at *Valparaiso* on the 2nd of April, whereby 260 houses were so much injured that they were quite unsafe and must be pulled down. No lives were lost, but a great deal of property was destroyed in the houses injured by the heavy rain that fell immediately after the shock.

NARRATIVE OF LITERATURE AND ART

AN assumed construction has been given to the recent decision on the subject of foreign copyright in the Court of Error which will affect the rights of English authors somewhat seriously if found to be correct. It is affirmed that under that decision a foreign author will not be required to have assigned his copyright for any valuable consideration here, or even be called upon to establish his right by a priority of publication in this country. It will suffice to protect his property, it is said, if he is simply careful to register his work in our Stationers' Hall before its publication in either country. This construction of Lord Campbell's judgment does not seem to us likely to prove correct; but it is highly necessary, the doubt being raised, that the question should be finally settled one way or other. The preamble to the international copyright act, as well as the act itself, was a mere useless absurdity, if the judgment of the Court of Error be so interpreted. But agitation of the matter is premature till the Lords shall have pronounced final judgment in the case. Let the law of England be irrevocably established and declared; and then move the legislature, if need be, to alter or amend the law.

The publishers have been busier during the past month than for several months preceding, but the books of any importance that have appeared are not numerous. Mr. Foss has published a third and fourth volume of his *Judges of England*, from the time of the Conquest. More than two centuries are comprised in this portion of the proposed series, and it is supposed that the scheme may be completed in four additional volumes. The reigns of the first five Edwards, of the fourth, fifth, and sixth Henries, and of Richard the Second and Third, supply the present memoirs. Though brief, they are very carefully executed; the original authorities (for the most part not easy of access) having in every case been consulted; and to several new and not unimportant facts, they add the correction of many old mistakes. Of other productions in the biographical department, we may mention a second volume of Mr. Robert Chambers' new *Life and Works of Burns*; a *Life of William Allen*, a member of the Society of Friends noted for his scientific tastes and unwearied philanthropy; and an extremely pleasing *Memoir of Bishop Copleston*, by his nephew, in which justice is unpretendingly done to the character of that wit, scholar, and divine.

One or two rather important contributions have been made to recent history in connection with the affairs of Italy. Mr. W. E. Gladstone has translated and published the first two volumes of Luigi Carlo Farini's work upon the *Roman State from 1815 to 1850*. The author of this book is an Italian who has taken a prominent part for some years in the public affairs of his country. During the brief and ill-fated Roman Constitution, he was a member of the chamber of deputies; and he served as one of the ministers of Pio Nono during his Holiness' "fine frenzy" of short lived liberalism. He belongs to what is called the moderate constitutional party, being as strongly opposed to the republicanism of Mazzini as to the domination of Austria; but his present book derives its great value from its deliberate and unmitigated protest against that old papal system which French bayonets have so recently restored, and from its having obtained the approval and imprimatur of so able and moderate an English statesman as Mr. Gladstone. A second book on the Italian struggle is an account of the *Italian Volunteers and Lombard Rifle Brigade*, by Emilio Dandolo, a young and enthusiastic Italian who served in it, who fought with it through Charles Albert's mournful but not inglorious campaign, and, taking part in the subsequent siege of Rome, saw his brother and his dearest friends perish by his side. These personal incidents give great interest to the volume, which is otherwise remarkable for its unaffectedness and candour. The writer is no politician, and has evidently a very imperfect appreciation of the merits of the various sections into which the liberal party is divided. The sum of his political creed appears to be an ardent resolve to drive out the Austrians. A third book, connected with the same theme—Mr. Beldam's *Recollections of Scenes and Institutions in Italy and the East*—is little more than a book of travels, undertaken with strong religious views and a desire to make personal examination of biblical sites and scenes.

Other books of travel of the month have been upon

the *Shores and Islands of the Mediterranean*, by the Rev. Mr. Christmas; upon the principal scenes of the late Hungarian Civil War, described under the title of *The Goth and the Hun*, by Mr. Paton; upon a *Voyage from Leith to Lapland*, by Mr. Hurtou, presenting several animated pictures of Scandinavia of a minute and novel kind; and upon Society in Spain from the *Notes of an Attaché*. Mr. Charles Knight's *Excursion Companion* takes the more limited range of adventure comprised by the circuit of our English railways, but admirably supplies that new want which the pleasure trains have created. And with these little guide-books may be mentioned a book upon *The Legends and Fly-fishing of the Erne*, by a reverend and most worthy follower of Walton and Cotton in the dexterous management of both pen and rod.

Even the departments of Poetry and Science have not been without some noticeable additions during the past month. Mr. Babbage has forcibly reiterated his well-known views of the industry, science, and (in respect to the ill rewards of both) the government of England, in a volume on the *Exposition of 1851*. Doctor Lardner has published a *Hand-book of Natural Philosophy and Astronomy*; to Mr. Wilkinson, the thoughtful biographer of Swedenborg, we owe a somewhat remarkable volume on *The Human Body and its connexion with Man*; and Mr. Francis Newman has collected into a compact volume a series of *Lectures on Political Economy*. The principal poetical publications have been a ballad-epic on *Abd-el-Kadir*, by Lord Maidstone; some gracefully written *Poems* by Mr. C. H. Hitchings; *A little Book of Songs and Ballads*, gathered from ancient music books, many of them heretofore unpublished, by Doctor Reimbault; and a retrospect of the last four years of Italy, under the title of *Casa Guidi Windows*, in the eager and impassioned verse of Elizabeth Barrett Browning.

The third performance, by the amateur company of the *Guild of Literature and Art*, of Sir Bulwer Lytton's new comedy, *Not so Bad as We Seem*, took place on the 19th, at the Hanover-square Rooms. The price of admission was ten shillings; and the large hall was crowded by a distinguished company.

Auber's new opera, *L'Enfant Prodigue*, has been produced, in an Italian dress, at *Her Majesty's Theatre*, under the title of *Il Prodigo*. The principal characters are sustained by Gardoni, Massol, Coletti, Madame Sontag, and Madame Ugalde. It has been highly successful.

A new five-act play, called *Ingomar*, has been performed at *Drury Lane*.

The *Haymarket* has produced two comic operas, taken from the French: the one, *Good Night, Sir*, and *Pleasant Dreams*, is a version of Grisar's *Bon Soir, Monsieur Pantalon*; and the other, *The Cadi*, of Ambroise Thomas's *Le Caid*.

The seventh *Philharmonic Concert* was on the 9th, and the eighth (the last of the season) on the 23d inst. At the last, Herr Paucr, a distinguished pianist from Vienna, made his appearance.

COMMERCIAL RECORD.

BANKRUPTS.

From the Gazette of June 3.—S. G. QUATERMAINE, Eaton News, West Pimlico, horse-dealer.—E. PEPPER, Threadneedle-street, victualler.—J. HARVEY, Gravesend, timber-merchant.—R. C. PAULING, Great Percy-street, Pentonville, railway-contractor.—G. J. WEBB, Llanelly, Carmarthenshire, coal-merchant.—W. HAMLEY, Clifton, builder.—H. COATES, Birmingham, draper.—B. THOMPSON, Derby, woollen-draper.—T. SLATER and J. PATON, Salford, cotton-spinners.—D. JOHNSTONE, Manchester, Innkeeper.—E. NICHOLSON, York, tailor.

June 6th. A. BURN, Sackville-street, tailor.—E. LEECH, Chichester, apothecary.—J. HINKS, Warwick, grocer.—H. BLACK, Nottingham, lace-manufacturer.—J. JACKSON, Scarborough, silversmith.—J. GREENHALGH, Radcliffe-bridge, Lancashire, draper.

June 10th. W. SMITH, West Hill Grove, Wandsworth-road, timber-dealer.—S. RATCLIFFE, Aldham, miller.—H. MARTEN, Lewes, draper.—J. DUMMELOW, Feuchurch-street, broker.—L. D. SMITH, Little Knight Rider-street, calenderer.—W. GLAZIER, Bristol, grocer.—J. T. HALL, Northwich, bookseller.—S. and J. HEY, Colne, Lancashire, manufacturers.

June 13th. S. RATLIFF, (and not RATCLIFFE, as before advertised,) Aldham, Suffolk, miller.—C. MOODY, Goswell-road, butcher.—J. M. WOOD, Barbican, victualler.—J. WALTERS, Great Rider-street, victualler.—J. MILDRUM, Oakley-terrace, Chelsea, builder.—J. LATHAM, Howland-street, Fitzroy-square, pianoforte-manufacturer.—T. FISHER, Gower-street, pianoforte-manufacturer.—W. CLIPSON, Chester, builder.—B. WHITTAKER and J. FULLLOVE, Ancoats, Lancashire, manufacturers.

June 17th. H. MILLS, Lynn, glover, to surrender.—M. COMMON, North Shields, draper.—T. G. PHILLIPS, Newport, Monmouthshire, Grocer.—S. W. ISHERWOOD, Hull, woollen-draper.—W. H. EDWARDS, Leeds, hosier.—T. DIXON, Bradford, Yorkshire, iron-merchant.

June 20th. J. BARTLETT, Upper Thames-street, wine-merchant.—J. HUNT, Edgware-road, draper.—J. P. WHITMORE, Hackney, draper.—J. and G. J. WHITFIELD, Lamb's Conduit-street, cheesemongers.—T. FITCH, Chester-place, Kennington, commission-agent.—C. COLLINS, Aldermanbury, carpet-manufacturer.—T. MILLS, Painswick, Gloucestershire, quarry-master.—W. WILSON, Bristol, linen-draper.

June 24th. A. PATTEN, horse-dealer, Chapple, Essex.—J. SOWERBY, silk-mercer, Oxford-street.—W. HANSON, statuary, Warwick-road, Kensington.—J. BENTON, corn-merchant, White Horse-street, Stepney.—W. DAVIES, coal-merchant, Walbrook.—A. B. GRANVILLE, boarding and lodging-house keeper, Wembley, Middlesex.

BANKRUPTCIES ANNULLED.

June 3rd.—J. WHITE, Birmingham, hay-dealer.

June 17th.—W. C. GAZELEY, Tortiano Villas, Kentish-town, builder.

June 20th.—C. LAWES, Chippenham, inn-keeper.

MONEY MARKET.

The English stock-market has had little fluctuation during the month, neither has the business been important. The books of all the stocks, the dividends upon which become due next month, have been closed till the 17th of July.

STOCKS.	Highest.	Lowest.	Latest.
Three per Cent. Consols . . .	97 $\frac{1}{2}$	96 $\frac{3}{4}$	96 $\frac{3}{4}$
Three per Cent. Reduced . . .	97 $\frac{1}{2}$	97 $\frac{1}{2}$	97 $\frac{1}{2}$
Three and a quarter per Cents. .	98 $\frac{1}{2}$	98 $\frac{1}{2}$	98 $\frac{1}{2}$
Long Annuities, Jan. 1860 . . .	7 $\frac{3}{8}$	7 $\frac{3}{8}$	7 $\frac{3}{8}$
Bank Stock	213	211	212 $\frac{3}{4}$
India Stock	shut	—	—
Exchequer Bills	46s. prm.	44s. prm.	44s. prm.
India Bonds £100	56s. prm.	53s. prm.	53s. prm.

FOREIGN FUNDS—LATEST PRICES.

Brazilian 5 per cents, 87 $\frac{1}{2}$	Peruvian 5 per cent, 87 $\frac{1}{2}$
Buenos Ayres 6 per cent., 56	Portuguese 4 per cent., 103 $\frac{1}{2}$
Danish 5 per cent., 103 $\frac{1}{2}$	Russian 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., 102 $\frac{1}{2}$
Dutch 4 p. c. certificates, 91 $\frac{1}{2}$	Spanish Passive Bonds, 5 $\frac{1}{2}$
Mexican Bonds, 34 $\frac{1}{2}$	Do. 3 per cent., 40 $\frac{1}{2}$

Paid.	RAILWAYS.	Highest.	Lowest.	Latest.
100	Brighton and South Coast.	96	94 $\frac{1}{2}$	94 $\frac{1}{2}$
all	Blackwall	8	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	6 $\frac{1}{2}$
50	Caledonian	13 $\frac{1}{2}$	12 $\frac{1}{2}$	12 $\frac{1}{2}$
20	Eastern Counties	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	6	6
50	Edinburgh and Glasgow .	30	28	28
all	Great Northern	17 $\frac{1}{2}$	17 $\frac{1}{2}$	17 $\frac{1}{2}$
100	Great Western	85 $\frac{1}{2}$	83	83
50	Hull and Selby	102 $\frac{1}{2}$	102 $\frac{1}{2}$	102 $\frac{1}{2}$
100	Lancashire and Yorkshire	56	54 $\frac{1}{2}$	54 $\frac{1}{2}$
100	London & North Western	121 $\frac{1}{2}$	121 $\frac{1}{2}$	121 $\frac{1}{2}$
100	Midland	53 $\frac{1}{2}$	45 $\frac{1}{2}$	45 $\frac{1}{2}$
25	North British	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	6 $\frac{1}{2}$
30	South Eastern and Dover.	23 $\frac{1}{2}$	22 $\frac{1}{2}$	22 $\frac{1}{2}$
100	South Western	83 $\frac{1}{2}$	81 $\frac{1}{2}$	81 $\frac{1}{2}$
25	York, Newc., and Berwick	20 $\frac{1}{2}$	18 $\frac{1}{2}$	18 $\frac{1}{2}$
50	York and North Midland	22 $\frac{1}{2}$	19 $\frac{1}{2}$	19 $\frac{1}{2}$

FOREIGN RAILWAYS—LATEST PRICES.

Boulogne and Amiens, 9	Paris and Rouen, 25 $\frac{1}{2}$
East Indian, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$	Paris and Strasbourg, 10 $\frac{1}{2}$
Namur and Liege, 6 $\frac{1}{2}$	Rouen and Havre, 9 $\frac{1}{2}$
Northern of France, 15 $\frac{1}{2}$	Tours and Nantes, 6 $\frac{1}{2}$

CORN MARKET—LONDON WEEKLY AVERAGES.

Wheat, per qr., 39s. 11d.; Barley, 24s. 6d.; Oats, 20s. 1d.; Rye, 26s. 1d.; Beans, 30s. 10d.; Peas, 28s. 6d.; Flour (town made), delivered, 37s. to 42s.; American barrel of 280 lbs., 20s. to 24s.

PROVISIONS—LATEST WHOLESALE PRICES.

Bacon, per cwt., Waterford, 46s. to 56s.; Belfast, 43s. to 46s.	Hams, per cwt.—York or Cumberland, 60s. to 60 $\frac{1}{2}$ s.; Irish, 68s.; Westphalia, 49s. to 53s.
Beef, per 8 lbs., mid. to prime, 2s. 2d. to 3s. 4d.	Mutton, per 8 lbs., mid. to prime, 2s. 8d. to 4s.
Butter, per cwt.—Cork, 3rd and 4th, 70s.; Waterford, 1st, 60s. to 72s.; Dutch Friesland, 73s. to 74s.; Limerick, 62s. to 67s.	Potatoes, per ton.—Kent and Essex Shaws, 60s. to 72s.; Kent and Essex Middling, 55s. to 70s.; Chats, 31s. to 36s.
Cheese, per cwt., Cheshire, 42s. to 70s.; Wiltshire, Double, 40s. to 53s.; Dutch, New Gouda, 30s.; American, 30s.	Pork, 8 lbs., 2s. 8d. to 4s.
Eggs, per 120, French, 4s. 3d. to 5s. 6d.	Veal, per 8 lbs., 2s. 8d. to 3s. 10d.

GROCERY—LATEST WHOLESALE PRICES.

Cocoa, per cwt. Ord. to good red Trinidad, 34s. to 46s.; Brazil, 26s. to 30s.	Sugar, per cwt.—Loaves brown, 47s. to 52s.; British West India, good grocery, 35s. to 42s.; Mauritius, brown, 27s. to 41s.; Brazil, do. 32s. to 44s.
Coffee, per cwt.—Good ord., native Ceylon, 37s. to 78s.; Mocha, 36s. to 72s.; Sumatra, 34s. to 37s.; Java, 37s. to 51s.	Tea, per lb. (duty 2s. 1d. and 5 per cent.)—Ord. to Good Congou, 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. to 1s. 8d. Souchong, common to fine, 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. to 2s. 6d.; ord. to fine Hyson, 1s. 2d. to 3s.; Imperial, 1s. to 2s. 6d.
Rice, per cwt.—Bengal fine white, 8s. 6d. to 11s.; Madras, 7s. to 9s.; Patna, cleaned, 11s. to 17s.	

Candles, per 12 lbs. 4s. 6d. to 5s. 6d. | Coals, per ton, 14s. 6d.

OILS.

Pale Seal, per 252 gals., 31l.	Palm, per ton, 28l.
Sperm, 84l. to 87l.	Olive, Gallipoli, 40l.
Cod, 38l.	Lined, 32l. to 32 $\frac{1}{2}$ l. 10s.

THE
HOUSEHOLD NARRATIVE
OF CURRENT EVENTS.

1851.]

FROM THE 29TH JUNE TO THE 28TH JULY.

[PRICE 2d.

THE THREE KINGDOMS.

THE Ecclesiastical Titles Bill is now virtually law. It passed the upper house by an enormous majority on the morning when Miss Talbot was married. Misfortunes seldom come single to holy or unholy men. The closing incidents of its career in the lower house have some claim to be remembered among the curiosities of history. The men to whose mortal hatred of it we are indebted for debates extending over five weary months, are the very men from whom it received, during the debates of its five closing days, its most stringent and effective provisions. The popular idea of an Irish opposition was exactly realised by Mr. Reynolds and his friends. They were present when they had better have been absent, and absent when they ought to have been present. Even at the very last, when their desperate stand was to have been made on the question that the bill as amended should pass, all were mute on the question being put. Mr. Grattan was in the library, Mr. Reynolds was in the passage, Mr. Keogh was waiting for Mr. Murphy, Mr. Murphy did not know he was waited for, nobody else was attending, and the bill passed in silence. It passed with amendments making the declaratory clause, or preamble, not merely condemnatory of the particular brief or rescript of last year, but of "all such briefs and rescripts;" applying the hundred-pound-penalty, not merely to the assumption of the titles conferred by such authority, but to the act of obtaining, or introducing into the United Kingdom, any future briefs, rescripts, bulls, or letters-apostolic of a similar tenor; and, finally, vesting the prosecuting power not merely in the Attorney-General, but, with the Attorney's consent and approval, in any private informer. Such was the characteristic termination, in the lower house, of an opposition without parallel for unscrupulous means employed, and abortive results obtained. The bill was then received in the upper house with open arms, and its second reading passed by a majority of two hundred and twenty-seven; the Pope and his advisers having themselves, only a few days before, done their best to swell this majority by promulgating a scheme for the erection of a new St. Peter's in the very heart of London, and for providing that it should be governed by a congregation of Italian secular priests resident in Rome "that the Roman spirit may always influence the same." Whatever else may be thought of the Ecclesiastical Titles Bill, of its chances of efficiency or its liability to abuse, there cannot be a doubt that it embodies the answer of the English people to all such impudent attempts to establish an Italian Propaganda among them. It is their counter-promulgation of a fresh protest against Rome. It is thus they declare, in answer to the lords of the Vatican, that they have not lost their love for free enquiry, nor their hatred of priestly assumption. It is a message carrying warning with it (if rightly understood) to the dwellers in palaces less distant than the Vatican, but, if all be true that has lately been declared, hardly any nearer to the region of the Gospel.

The past month will be memorable in the records of the English Church, even less for the enactment of a measure protecting her against foreign bishops, than for the proofs brought to light of the necessity that exists for an enactment protecting her against her own. More scandalous even than the debates of which the members for Rome were the heroes, have been those in which a majority of the prelates of the English Established Church have been openly accused of flagrant dishonesty, of direct breach of faith, of having falsified returns in which they had a personal interest, of having violated their own voluntary promises in respect of the disposition of property over which they had control, and of having retained for their own uses enormous sums of money which belonged to other people. If anything could have thrown into greater prominence these revelations of episcopal excess, it would have been the startling statement of spiritual destitution which was the occasion that drew them forth.

The question arose upon a motion for Church Extension by means of more equitable division of Church revenues, in justification of which it had been shown that out of a population of nearly four millions, distributed over a hundred and thirty parishes in England and Wales, only church-accommodation could be found for little more than half that number, by the wealthiest and most richly-endowed establishment in the world. This led to a consideration of the results of that arrangement between the bishops and the ecclesiastical commission, entered into fifteen years ago, by which those right reverend men were to be allowed fixed incomes ranging from between four and five to no less than fifteen thousand a-year, but with the permission of still keeping the management of the property in their own hands, subject only to the paying over to the commissioners whatever surplus might remain after satisfying those fixed and certainly not illiberal annual stipends. It might have seemed that such an arrangement could be in no possible danger of being violated, seeing who were the parties to it. But the reverse turns out to be the fact, to a very sad and surprising extent. The empty titles which Cardinal Wiseman and his brother bishops have been taking without any legal right to them, are nothing to the solid thousands which Bishops Blomfield, Maltby, Sumner, Monk, and their brethren, have been keeping with as little equitable claim to them. The last seven years' incomes of even the six minor sees show an excess of twenty-eight thousand pounds more than ought in conscience and honour to have been retained; and as for the owners of the larger sees, one's breath is fairly taken away by the amount of delinquency imputed to them. For that same period of seven years the Bishop of Worcester appears to have pocketed, on his own showing, a surplus sum of eleven thousand pounds. During the fourteen years of the existence of the commission which fixed the stipends of the sees of London and Winchester at ten and seven thousand a-year, the present owners of those sees appear to have retained (taking even the very doubtful authority of their own disputed returns) a gross excess above the annual

income declared to be sufficient for their successors, of nearly seventy-eight thousand pounds in the one case, and nearly fifty-four thousand in the other. But even these flagrant instances are nothing to that of the Bishop of Durham. For Doctor Maltby received his see subject to the new arrangement. Doctors Blomfield and Sumner might plead a technical right against a moral obligation; but the present Bishop of Durham, presented after the date of the ecclesiastical commission, occupied the position which their successors will occupy, and was absolutely not entitled to more than eight thousand a-year. Yet this fortunate prelate, after paying back to the commission something more than eleven thousand a-year by way of reduction of his income to the equitable point, is shown to have retained, in 1847, twenty-six thousand pounds; in 1848, twenty-three thousand pounds; in 1849, nine thousand; and in 1850, twenty-seven thousand. Taking the returns last open to question, it would seem that during the two septennial periods that have elapsed since the establishment of the commission, Doctor Maltby has received and retained eighty thousand pounds sterling over and above the hundred and twelve thousand pounds which it was intended by parliament that he should receive and retain.

Nor is it simply the rapacity which has thus clutched at and seized fast these enormous amounts of what, if they believe the gospel they are appointed to preach, they must hold to be the root of all evil, that is to be laid to the charge of these holy and right reverend men. It is in proof that this very bishop of Durham assured the commissioners, fourteen years ago, that there was not the least prospect of the revenues of the see clearing twenty-two thousand a-year in future; whereupon, this assurance being believed, and the bishop's moving picture of his probable impoverishment having had its due effect, the commissioners were induced to lower, by the amount of a thousand a-year, the annual deduction to be paid from that see to the fund; and the prudent bishop quietly profited, thenceforward, to the amount of between fifteen and sixteen thousand a-year in place of his stipulated eight thousand. Further, it is matter of very strong suspicion (for everything in relation to the see of London is a mystery, and Sydney Smith appears to have been nearest the truth when he averred that the real amount of its revenues was only known to the man who received them) that the returns made to parliament by Bishop Blomfield are deplorably inexact, and that the income-tax commissioners have grave reason to complain of inadequate sums set down in their books as representing the bishop's incomes. Is it uncharitable to assume that this charge *may* be true, when, on Doctor Blomfield's own showing, it is manifest that for years he has been retaining annually more than double the sum which he declared fourteen years ago was amply sufficient for a bishop of London to enjoy? or, in other words, to borrow Sir Benjamin Hall's figures, has been pocketing five times more than the salary of the prime minister, and a hundred and fifty-one times more than the income of the most industrious, most meritorious, and most zealous clergyman in the parish where he mainly resides! But if we may concede that doubt still rests on such a case as his,—in others, where the letters of the bishops themselves are evidence against them, such a plea has not a pretence to rest upon. What are we to say of the bishop of Gloucester, while renewing a lease to his own benefit for three lives which by every moral consideration of propriety or decency ought to have passed into the hands of the commission for the uses of the Church, and while conscious at the same time of retaining the sum of nearly a thousand pounds in excess of his stipulated income and exclusive of the manor so leased—what are we to say of his pleading with the commissioners against an assessment of seven hundred a-year, in terms that might only be justifiable if actual destitution were impending over him? What are we to say of the bishop of Worcester, while conscious of the retention of nearly eleven thousand pounds in excess of the seven years' income which the act of parliament meant him to receive, memorialising the commission to the effect that he apprehended a defalcation of income that would "utterly prevent him fulfilling, as he would wish to do, those offices of charity and hospitality that belong to his position in the church," claiming that a lower deduction than their assessment should be made, or that nothing but "judgment and a writ of execution" should compel him to submit to it; threatening to bring down upon them even his brother Pepys the chancellor; and at last, when driven to desperation by the apparent firmness of his hard-hearted creditors, exhibiting what he calls the "hardship and injustice" of compelling him to do right, by example of the instances in which other right reverend brethren had been allowed to do wrong!! "It appears," he says, "by the returns presented to the House of Commons last session that the average receipts of the bishop of Durham, for the last seven years, have been 11,792*l.*, instead of 8000*l.*; those of the late bishop of Ely, 6772*l.*, instead of 5500*l.*; while the bishop of Salisbury, who is not taxed at all, has received yearly 7450*l.*, and the bishop of Gloucester and Bristol, 5600*l.*, besides his *commendams*. Granting, therefore, that the revenues of the see of Worcester have improved, is it fair that I should be denied the benefit of such improvement when it has been thus allowed to other bishops?" Is it fair! Was ever pistol presented to the head with more touching entreaty?

On any authority but that of Dr. Pepys himself, such an appeal would be too monstrous to be credible. Yet such is the spirit displayed generally, with differences only in degree, by almost all the occupants of the Episcopal bench in England at this time. And be it remembered that these men are not grasping for the sake of the Church, but directly against the interests of the Church. The thousands and tens of thousands which they thus greedily seek to retain, are so many units, tens, and hundreds deducted from the hard-working clergy. Every shilling they have kept in excess of their legitimate incomes ought to have gone in relief of that spiritual destitution in their respective dioceses as to which they are always piously declaiming. The highest ministers of a gospel which tells them to live as those whose treasures are in heaven, lodged in palaces, set on high as examples of Christian faith, and modesty, and charity,—these are the men with whom, in exact proportion to the incomes grasped for themselves in excess of the incomes recommended as enough for their successors, the solemn responsibility rests of the souls that are yearly perishing for want of religious aid. Do we resort to language too high-flown in contrasting the actual conduct of these right reverend persons with their abstract claims? Why, in the recent debate on Lord Redesdale's silly motion for the revival of convocation, the bishop of London in express terms asserted the claims of the order to which he belongs to be, in this realm, the depositary of the faith once delivered to the Saints; while his brother of Oxford put forth the more lofty pretension, on the part of himself and the other occupants of the episcopal bench, of representing nothing less than the apostolic synod which was divinely assembled and miraculously endowed in Jerusalem at the feast of Pentecost.

In no spirit of irreverence may it be remarked upon this, that nothing short of really miraculous endow-

ments will probably soon be found absolutely needful, to save Dr. Wilberforce and his brethren from a stringent measure of Church Reform, or any ministry which declines to grant it from prompt destruction. People are already beginning to make strange comparisons, and to discover that it is really no part of the necessity of an episcopacy that its members should make the accumulation of enormous sums of money the whole end and aim of their existence. In some statistical returns upon the subject which have been opportunely published, they perceive that the late primate of the Church of France, who perished on the barricades of Paris in the vain attempt to arrest the horrors of civil war, was content with a stipend of sixteen hundred pounds a year, enjoyed in a single palace, whose expenses were defrayed from that sum; and they meditate on the fact that the late primate of the Church of England, who, on the very day when his brother Primate so perished, was quietly travelling to Canterbury with a well-stocked hamper of champagne to give a public breakfast on occasion of opening a collegiate institution there, enjoyed an income of more than fifteen thousand a year, possessed two palaces, and during his incumbency had spent on the repairs of those palaces no less a sum than sixty thousand pounds. They are struck by the announcement, that the whole annual expense of the Episcopacy in France is little more than forty-two thousand pounds a year, while that of the Episcopacy in England is something more than two hundred thousand. And with these curious items, they couple the reflection, not less curious or impressive, that a population of thirty-five million souls, of which only one million are dissenters, can be spiritually "overlooked" at a charge of nearly a hundred and sixty thousand a year less than is required for the spiritual overlooking of a population of fifteen million souls, of which at least one-third are dissenters declining the favour altogether of being so overlooked.

In short it is quite certain that every year will now make more imminent the necessity for a well-devised plan of re-arrangement and re-distribution in regard to ecclesiastical revenues. For years, the necessity has been felt; but, unfortunately, the means adopted have only subjected the bishops to an increase of the very temptation from which they most required to be saved. The men are not nearly so much to blame as a system which tends to turn even the most modest and honourable men into partisans interested in maintaining it. The bishops must not again be permitted to remodel and reform themselves. Of their apparent incapacity to take just views of these matters, even amid the painful excitement caused among the best and warmest friends of the Church by the recent disclosures, the last act for which they may be deemed responsible in the now closing session is a remarkable proof. Nothing has so directly induced the monstrous pecuniary abuses so damaging to the bishops as the unsettled state of the law regarding ecclesiastical leases and fines in renewal. In such fines alone, during the last seven years, there appears to have been something like an amount of six hundred and fifty thousand pounds received, in every one of which instances, it is needless to remark, the Church lost in proportion as the bishop gained. But the House of Lords, acting on the advice of its right reverend bench, has just refused to entertain a most moderate proposal of compromise offered by Lord Carlisle, of which the effect would have been to cure at least some of the crying defects of subordinating the ecclesiastical interests so wholly and exclusively to the episcopal. And this they profess to have done in the interest of the Church, just as, not many days before, they had voted in horror against the admission of a Jew into the House of Commons, lest it should seem to proclaim their indifference to the purity of the faith of which they claim to be the depositaries and representatives. Nevertheless the clatter which they may expect to be raised about their ears before many sessions are over, on this and other cognate questions, is but faintly foreshadowed by the noise which Mr. Alderman Salomons has been making ever since their vote of disqualification against the lawful "elected" of Greenwich.

Into Mr. Salomons' resolute storming of the House of Commons, and all the various speeches which have been, and may yet be, made thereupon; into the worthy Alderman's gallant aspirations after the fame of Pym and Hampden, not to speak of his prudent accompanying hopes that the English people will hold him harmless in regard to any penalties or fines his patriotic rashness may have incurred; it is not necessary that we should enter. It does not seem probable that the result of his agitation on the mere question of the efficacy of certain words in the oath, as connected with the statute for the relief of tender consciences, will advance the question much beyond where it was left by the debates in Baron Rothschild's case; but if the constituencies themselves now resolve to take up the question in earnest, and return some half-dozen Jews when they have the opportunity, it is not doubted, even by the Lords themselves, that further contest with the will of the people in the matter would be quite idle and unavailing.

The great subject of Law Reform may be well said to have taken a step in advance, during a month which has seen the Queen's Attorney-General rise in his place to propose the second reading of a bill embodying so great a principle of improved jurisprudence as that of admitting, in our superior courts, the evidence of parties to suits. This was the change for which Bentham pleaded, all his life, so earnestly and vainly. It deserves to be noted, also, that the principle of a yet greater reform, on which some remarks were made in our last publication, not only came under incidental discussion on that provision of the bill which authorises the Common Law Courts to compel the inspection of documents in all cases where a Court of Equity would grant a discovery, but elicited as well from the Attorney and Solicitor-General as from distinguished lawyers of less liberal political opinions, a hearty approval of the clause on the distinct ground of its being the first step towards a fusion of law and equity. Sir Alexander Cockburn expressly hailed it in his able speech as the commencement of a new era in our system of judicial proceeding, and did not hesitate to declare his hope that "we were now getting in the fine edge of the wedge, and that it must end in that fusion of law and equity, short of which he was convinced that the public would not be satisfied." This is language which marks out the speaker for a great share in the great work which still awaits the labourers in this field of reform. *Uno avulso non deficit alter*. "I hope," Lord Brougham had said, not many days earlier, after describing the incalculable blessings of such change as would make one uniform system of our English law,—“I hope that those who are younger than I am, may live, without living long, to enjoy the happiness of seeing this gigantic improvement in our jurisprudence completely and efficiently consummated.” And if this should be so (and seeing the signs around us, who would condemn the hope as oversanguine or premature?)—in no small degree will it have been due to the exertions of Henry Brougham. Never will that name be dissociated from this great cause. Never will his countrymen in distant times forget, when the memory of less grateful passages in his career shall have passed away, that to the promotion of law reform, and the extension of popular education, Lord Brougham devoted the best years of his life, his most practical and powerful talents, his most consistent and unwearied energies.

It may be expected that we should advert in conclusion, as to a subject not disconnected from these, to the results arrived at by that Parliamentary Committee on Newspaper Stamps for whose existence we are ourselves in some degree responsible. But there are reasons which limit our remarks for the present to a mere statement of the substance of their conclusions. Our readers are aware that a question involving the existence of the *Household Narrative* as an unstamped journal has been lately very learnedly argued before the Court of Exchequer; but they may not have observed an intimation since thrown out by Mr. Baron Parke to the effect that the opinion of the court is divided in the case, and that judgment cannot therefore be given till after the long vacation. In other words the law imposing a tax on newspapers, or rather the law which should define the conditions that constitute a newspaper, is so complicated and contradictory as to be, for the present, insoluble and inexplicable to the learned and accomplished lawyers who sit in the Exchequer. In such circumstances, not without some show of reason, the Parliamentary Committee come forward to recommend a thorough solution by the simple process of abolishing the stamp altogether. This recommendation they accompany by others, which would substitute a postage for newspapers and all other printed matter, not exceeding a penny for a weight equal to that of the largest newspaper existing; and which would at the same time concede to the original publisher of intelligence, a certain short privilege of copyright. The latter suggestion is manifestly a most just and reasonable one, yet it would probably be the most difficult to carry into effect. The whole question is now ripe, however, for the full and fair consideration which it is to be hoped will be given to it in the next session of Parliament. It is one that requires, and will repay, very patient and deliberate handling.

NARRATIVE OF PARLIAMENT AND POLITICS.

IN THE HOUSE OF LORDS on Thursday, June 26th, the Lord CHANCELLOR moved the second reading of the *Charitable Trusts Bill*, and explained the details of the measure, which, he said would be attended with great benefit to the public. Lord Brougham, Lord Stanley, and the Earl of Chichester expressed their satisfaction with the measure, and the bill was read a second time.

On Friday, June 27, Lord BROUGHAM intimated to the Earl of Ellenborough that there would be no objection to the production of the papers connected with the *Case of Jotee Persaud*, and requested the postponement of the discussion until they were laid on the table. Lord Ellenborough assented.

On Monday, June 30th, the Marquis of LONDON-DERRY, pursuant to notice, put a question to her Majesty's government, asking whether they had received any communication from our ambassador at Constantinople respecting negotiations that were now going on for the *Liberation of Abd-el-Kader*, and his transmission to Turkey; and whether the government would use their good offices in conjunction with Turkey, to alleviate the imprisonment of that illustrious warrior?—The Marquis of LANSDOWNE said that the government had no official information on the subject, nor had they any claim to interfere in the question, though, of course, they, in common with their lordships, would rejoice to hear that the French government found it consistent with their duty either to release that eminent warrior, or to mitigate the evils of his detention.

On Thursday, July 3, Lord BROUGHAM asked whether it was intended to introduce any bill similar to that brought forward by Lord Cottenham last year for the purpose of *Abolishing certain legal Offices*, and amongst them that of Chief Registrar in the Court of Bankruptcy. The bill had been stigmatised in the House of Commons as a job, and rejected; but he could only say he wished there were more such jobs.—The Lord CHANCELLOR said that the facts stated by Lord Brougham were correct. There could be no doubt that great inconvenience had been caused by the rejection of Lord Cottenham's bill, to remedy which it would be necessary to bring in a fresh bill. The noble lord then proceeded to give a sketch of the duties of his secretaries, and of the time and trouble he had bestowed on the office he now filled. Much remained to be done in the way of law reform, but it was only those who were ignorant of the evils caused by alterations made by rash hands who underrated what had been already effected. It was most unjust to attack him for not desiring reform, for he had been a reformer before reform was in fashion, and he would not cease to be one now.—Lord BROUGHAM, in a speech at some length, warmly repudiated the imputation of rashness cast upon him by the Lord Chancellor, who protested that that he had not used the words "rash hands" with reference to his noble friend. After some further explanations the matter dropped.

On Friday, July 4, Lord BEAUMONT moved the second reading of the *Purchase of Lands Facilitation (Ireland)*

Bill, the object of which, he said, was to empower trustees in Ireland who were granting money on estates to purchase those estates when brought into the Encumbered Estates Court.—The Lord CHANCELLOR opposed the motion on the ground, mainly, that on the one hand the bill would relieve trustees from breaches of trust, and on the other enable them to extend them. After a brief debate the bill was rejected, three peers voting for the second reading, while sixteen voted adversely.

On Monday, July 7, the *Ecclesiastical Titles Assumption Bill* was read a first time, and the second reading was appointed for Monday the 21st.

On Tuesday, July 8, the *Expenses of Prosecutions Bill* was read a third time and passed; but from the prevalence of private conversation in the house the fact was not noticed, till Lord CAMPBELL stopped a discussion on the bill, which was still proceeding after it had passed. This gave rise to an amusing scene, the effect of which was heightened by the Lord CHANCELLOR addressing the house from the woolsack, when he was called on by Lord BROUGHAM to come into the house before he addressed it.—The Lord CHANCELLOR confirmed the fact of the bill having passed, and exhorted their lordships to be more attentive.

The *Lodging Houses Bill* was read a second time, on the motion of the Earl of SHAFTESBURY, who, in a speech of great length, detailed to the house the wretched condition of the dwellings of the poor, and explained the object of the bill, which was to improve not only the physical but the moral and religious condition of the labouring classes.—The bill received unanimous support and approbation from the Marquis of Normanby, Lord Kinnaird, and the Earl of Harrowby, who suggested that whenever a bill came before them for the widening of streets and the improvement of neighbourhoods, care should always be taken to insert a clause providing for the accommodation of the displaced population in the manner contemplated by this bill; a suggestion to which, as well as to the general approbation expressed of the bill, the Marquis of Lansdowne cordially assented.

On Thursday, July 10, Lord BROUGHAM announced his intention not to proceed any further during the present session with his two bills for the extension of the jurisdiction of *County Courts*.

On Friday, July 11, Lord BROUGHAM presented a petition from Mr. Paxton for the *Preservation of the Crystal Palace* as a winter garden, and supported its prayer, to which Lord Campbell objected.—Earl GRANVILLE stated that the Commissioners felt themselves precluded from entertaining the question.

Lord REDESDALE presented some petitions praying for a restoration of the *Convocation of the Church*, and spoke at some length in support of the measure. The Archbishop of CANTERBURY thought the revival of the convocation calculated to increase rather than heal the divisions in the church.—The Archbishop of Dublin gave his opinion in favour of convocation; the Bishop of London claimed for the church the right to meet in convocation; and the Bishop of Oxford held that convocation was less dangerous than the existing

system.—After some observations from the Marquis of Lansdowne against the revival of convocation, certain papers moved for by Lord Redesdale were ordered.

On Monday, July 14, Lord CAMPBELL presented a petition from inhabitants of Knightsbridge, praying for the *Removal of the Crystal Palace*, and spoke in support of the petition.

The Bishop of OXFORD moved that copies of the correspondence touching the *Horfield Manor Estate*, which had passed between the Copyhold Commissioners and the Ecclesiastical Commission, should be laid on the table, and entered into an elaborate defence of the Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol, whose motives, he contended, had been grievously misrepresented.

The Marquis of LANSDOWNE having moved the first reading of the *Court of Chancery and Judicial Committee Bill*, Lord BROUGHAM apologised to the house for addressing the house on this stage of the bill, but the state of his health was such that if he did not speak now he should not have an opportunity of doing so again this session. He approved the present measure as a step, though not a stride, in the right direction; but if any one supposed that any structural alteration of the Court of Chancery would satisfy the wants of the public, he was a dreamer, and would some day awake to a sad reality. He desired no rash changes, but the house might rest assured that if efficient measures of Chancery reform were not speedily introduced, the inevitable result would be that the good would be swept away with the bad, and the jurisprudence and judicature of the country would be reduced to a state which would supply a wholesome warning to those who, from a fear of granting moderate and safe reform, exposed their lordships to the dangers of a violent revolution.—The bill was then read a first time.

On Tuesday, July 15, the Earl of DERBY moved that the papers laid before Parliament respecting the *Constitution of the Cape Colony* be referred to a select committee. He was actuated (he said) by no hostility to the Government, but solely by a desire to soothe the disaffection which existed at the Cape, and restore harmony to the colony. That colony, which came into our possession by conquest, was at first ruled by the Governor alone, then by the Governor assisted by an "Executive Council," which body afterwards became a "Legislative Council," into which was infused the first germ of popular institutions. In the year 1842, when he was Colonial Secretary, a petition was presented to him, praying the mother country to confer representative institutions on the colony, to which request he had declined to accede, not because he undervalued the benefit of colonial representative institutions in general, but because he thought the form of those institutions suggested by the petitioners undesirable, and also because he foresaw many obstacles to their successful introduction. Lord Derby then proceeded to give a sketch of the expectations which had been raised in the minds of the colonists by the promise of representative institutions held out to them by the present Government; showing how those expectations had been disappointed by the constitution sent out from this country, and how the majority of the inhabitants at the Cape were now engaged in an angry war with the Colonial Secretary. For his own part, since so large a measure of the representative system had been solemnly promised, he was of opinion that the engagement entered into with the colony should be rigidly adhered to, and he hoped that the labours of the select committee for which he was now about to move, and to which, he trusted, the house would consent, would, by its recommendations, afford the colony an opportunity of showing that it was really ripe for free institutions, and at the same time bring about a solution of the difficulties now unfortunately existing between the mother country and its colony.—Earl GREY spoke at great length in opposition to the motion. He asserted that Lord Derby had given no reasons for, and proceeded, after some strictures upon Lord Derby's despatches in 1842, to defend his own. He re-stated the recent history of the colony, and the acts of Governors Pottinger and Smith, and said that the moment the latter had informed the colony that he had reported in favour of

representative constitutions, the question was practically decided; and the only difficulty was, how to accord those institutions with safety. This was a grave question, and feeling that with the existing pressure of public business it would be impossible to get the Cabinet to consider it with the necessary care, he had thought it best to refer to the Privy Council; but there was no idea of avoiding responsibility. He proceeded to say that he was most anxious to establish a constitution at the Cape, and when the war should be over (which it was expected would soon be the case), he thought there would be little difficulty in the way of that object. He then went into the anti-convict case question, and dwelt upon the inhumanity of the colonists in refusing food to her Majesty's troops and to the wretched and suffering. He concluded a very long speech by describing this motion as an implied censure on government, and by demanding its rejection. After some observations from Lord Lyndhurst, the Lord Chancellor, the Duke of Argyll, Lord Wharcliffe, and the Duke of Newcastle, Lord Derby's motion was negatived by 74 to 68.

On Thursday, the 17th, the Lord CHANCELLOR moved the second reading of the *Oath of Abjuration (Jews) Bill*. After a debate, in which the old arguments for and against the measure were repeated, the principal speakers in its favour being Lord Wodehouse, the Archbishop of Dublin, the Earl of Carlisle, and the Bishop of Norwich; and against it, Earl Nelson, the Earl of Shaftesbury, the Earl of Winchelsea, Lord Abinger, and the Earl of Galloway,—the motion for the second reading was negatived by 144 to 108.

On Friday, the 18th, on the motion of the Marquis of LANSDOWNE, the *House-Tax Bill* was, after some debate, read the second time. In the course of the sitting, a considerable number of petitions were presented from different parts of the country *Against the Removal of the Crystal Palace* at the close of the Exhibition.

On Monday the 21st, the second reading of the *Ecclesiastical Titles Assumption Bill* was moved by the Marquis of LANSDOWNE, who recapitulated the circumstances which led to its introduction, and stated its objects.—The Earl of ABERDEEN opposed it on the ground that it was an interference with religious freedom. He denied that there was any intention on the part of the Pope to offer an offence to the crown of England, and contended that if the bill continued to be anything but a dead letter there never again would be peace in Ireland. He therefore moved that it be read a second time that day three months.—The Duke of WELLINGTON said he had always endeavoured to support the provisions of the great measure of 1829, but when the recent proceedings of the court of Rome were brought under his notice he felt at once that they could not be passed over without legislation. The Pope had appointed an Archbishop of Westminster, had attempted to exercise authority over the very spot in which the English parliament was assembled, and under the sanction of this proceeding Cardinal Wiseman made an attack upon the rights of the Dean and Chapter of Westminster. That this was contrary to the true spirit of the laws of England no man acquainted with them could doubt, for throughout the whole of our statutes affecting religion we had carefully abstained from disturbing the great principles of the reformation. If in their legislation upon this subject they did what was necessary for protecting the religious liberties of the people, and no more, they might rely upon the cordial support of England and of the better portion of Ireland. He therefore supported the second reading. After speeches in support of the bill from the Duke of Argyll and the Bishop of St. David's, the debate was adjourned.

On Tuesday the 22d, the debate was resumed; the bill being supported by Lord Winchelsea, Lord Lyndhurst, the Marquis of Clanricarde, the Lord Chancellor, Earl Fitzwilliam, and the Earl of Hardwicke; and opposed by Lord Vaux, the Earl of Wicklow, the Duke of Newcastle, Lord Montagu, and the Earl of St. Germans. On a division, the second reading was carried by 265 to 38.

On Friday the 25th, before the house went into committee on the above bill, Lord MONTEAGLE moved

an amendment for exempting Ireland from its operation, which was negated by 82 to 17. The house then went into committee. Two amendments were moved: the first by Lord KINNAIRD for the omission of the first clause; the second by the Duke of ARGYLL for the omission of the words, giving power to private individuals to institute proceedings. Both were negated; and the bill passed through committee.

In the HOUSE OF COMMONS on Thursday, June 25th, Mr. BANKES renewed his opposition to the *St. Alban's Bribery Commission Bill*, and moved the third reading that day six months. He was supported by Mr. Henley and Mr. J. Stuart; but the third reading was carried by 37 to 16. The question of the *Danish Claims* was again brought before the house by Mr. Roebuck, who moved for an address to her Majesty on the subject. —The Chancellor of the EXCHEQUER opposed the motion, which was negated by 126 by 49.

The *Landlord and Tenant Bill* was read a third time and passed; a clause moved by Mr. Anstey to exclude Ireland from its operation being negated.

On Friday, June 27th, in answer to a question respecting the disposal of the *Exhibition Building*, put by Mr. Stafford, Lord J. RUSSELL said that the commissioners for the Crystal Palace had contracted that the building should be removed from Hyde Park by the 1st of November, and they had no power to direct that it should be longer retained there. With respect to the ideas of the government with regard to the retention of the building, he could only say that they had never considered the subject, and had not at present the materials for such consideration.

On the motion for considering the amended *Ecclesiastical Titles Bill*, Mr. MILES moved a clause the object of which was to place a discretionary power in the hands of the Secretary of State to have any person convicted of a second offence against the bill conducted out of the kingdom.—Sir G. GREY opposed the clause as inoperative, for it contained no provision to prevent a return of the parties. The clause was negated by 140 to 101.—Mr. KEOGH then moved a clause, the object of which was to prevent the act from in any manner affecting any provisions in the Irish Charitable Bequests act.—Lord J. RUSSELL assented to the clause, which was agreed to.—Mr. KEOGH then moved that nothing in the bill contained should in any manner prevent the reception in evidence in any court of law or equity in this kingdom of any letter of ordination or other document conferring ecclesiastical powers upon any clergyman of the Roman Catholic Church, which, but for the passing of this act, would have been so received.—The ATTORNEY-GENERAL opposed the clause, not thinking it advisable that any titles should be recognised in contravention of the provisions of this bill. The clause was negated by 220 to 45.—Mr. KEOGH moved an amendment, to the effect that no proceedings should be taken under the proposed act, except by the Attorney-General in England and Ireland, and by the Lord-Advocate in Scotland.—Lord J. RUSSELL opposed the amendment as unnecessary.—Sir J. GRAHAM gave it his warm support, arguing that to allow an informer the opportunity of placing a Roman Catholic bishop at the criminal's bar for trial, without regard to the circumstances of the country at the moment (and he more particularly referred to Ireland), might be most dangerous. The check of control by the law advisers of the Crown ought certainly to be imposed. No reply being made, and a division being called for, Mr. M. J. O'CONNELL, with great warmth, demanded whether no notice was to be taken of an argument like that of Sir J. Graham? If the liberties of Ireland were to be strangled, ought they to be strangled by mutes?—Mr. LAWLESS seconded this appeal, and some excitement took place.—Mr. KEOGH charged the government with so much vacillation as to their measure, that, as he stated, Mr. Hayter (the secretary to the Treasury) had informed him, while the last division was going on, that there would be no objection to his clause, and that if he would cut his speech very short, he (Mr. Hayter) would keep his men to vote with him; then Lord John Russell changed his mind and opposed him. Various speeches followed;

Lord J. Russell and Sir G. Grey denying having given any authority to Mr. Hayter to bind the government, and Mr. Hayter denying (in a tone of great solemnity) that he had done so, or stated more than his own private opinion "in a conversational and confidential tone." Mr. Keogh reasserted the contrary, and especially denied the "confidence," inasmuch as he said Mr. Hayter had brought in the name of Sir Frederic Thesiger, and had remarked that, if Mr. Keogh's amendment was carried, of course Sir Frederic would not move one which he had upon the paper.—Sir F. THESIGER rose to deny having given anybody authority to speak for him, and finally the house divided, negating the amendment by 232 to 71.—Mr. REYNOLDS then moved a clause to the effect that nothing in the bill should affect an act for the maintenance of the cemeteries at Golden Bridge and Prospect, in the county of Dublin, &c. After some discussion, the clause was negated by 116 to 32.—Sir F. THESIGER then moved the amendments to the preamble, of which he had given notice, and the object of which was to give the bill a prospective operation as to future bulls and rescripts received from Rome. He was most anxious to make the bill complete and effective, which it certainly was not in its present shape. No further opportunity would be offered for amendments, and he, therefore, enforced the necessity of framing it now into a perfect and effectual measure. He had placed a series of amendments on the paper, the first of which was now before the house; and after explaining the tenor of those amendments, he maintained their necessity, if it were wished that the bill should operate in Ireland, or the breaches made in the bulwarks of our Zion repaired with substantial masonry.—Lord J. RUSSELL denied that the amendments so strongly insisted upon were at all requisite. The one now under consideration would render the operation of the bill less vigorous. As it stood, the bill would have effect in Ireland, but it must be remarked that the act of aggression appeared in a different character in that country from what it had in England. The Catholic episcopacy has long existed in Ireland, but in England its introduction was a novelty, and the Pope had gone out of his way to commit an encroachment on our church and faith. He objected especially to the amendment by which private individuals could initiate proceedings for penalties under the bill. After defending the measure generally, the noble lord declared that the amendment could only be carried by the ostentatious absence of the Irish members. Even in that case, however, he should not discontinue the measure, as the amendments did not contravene the principle of the bill as intended by the government.—The ATTORNEY-GENERAL considered the amendment now before them of comparatively little importance. He disapproved strongly of the amendment, allowing common informers to set in motion the legal machinery of the bill. The duty fell under the cognisance of the law advisers of the crown, and parliament or public opinion might be relied upon to guarantee that they should not neglect it. The house then divided—for the amendment, 135; against it, 100: majority, 35. The announcement of the numbers elicited loud cheering from the opposition benches. Some verbal amendments were then agreed to, after which Sir F. THESIGER moved an amendment, making it penal to obtain, or cause to be procured, from the bishop or see of Rome, or publish or put in use, within any part of the United Kingdom, any bull, brief, rescript, or letters apostolical, or any other instrument or writing, for the purpose of constituting arch-bishops or bishops of pretended provinces, sees, or dioceses within the United Kingdom.—The SOLICITOR-GENERAL contended that the amendments were ineffective and delusive. The house divided, and the numbers were—for the amendment, 165; against it, 109: majority against ministers, 56.—Lord J. RUSSELL said he would not divide the house on the next amendment of Sir F. Thesiger, but would take the sense of the house upon it on the third reading.—On the suggestion of Sir J. Graham, the bill was ordered to be reprinted, and Lord J. Russell fixed the third reading for Friday next.

The adjourned debate on the motion for an address upon the subject of the *Court of Chancery* was resumed by the SOLICITOR-GENERAL, who stated

that the Chancery Commission was not, he thought, in need of any addition to its numbers; but that it was pursuing a well-directed and extensive course of investigation, and he hoped that it would enable him to place before the house a mass of valuable and practical information. The motion was then agreed to.

On Monday, June 30, Mr. THOMAS BARING renewed in committee on the Customs bill his recent efforts to prevent the *Adulteration of Coffee by Chicory*; moving a resolution that it be an instruction to the committee "to make provision for preventing the mixture of chicory with coffee by the vendors of coffee." All that the coffee-growers ask (he said), is that chicory should be sold for what it is, and not for coffee.—The Chancellor of the EXCHEQUER observed that there was no sort of attempt at fraud here, because coffee in the berry was notoriously about twice the price of ground coffee.—Sir JOHN TYRELL insisted on the benefit of the chicory trade to agriculture; he knew a person who farmed 160 acres with chicory, and employed thirty labourers, where with grain crops he could employ only fourteen.—Mr. OSBORNE had no doubt that Mr. Baring's motives were pure; but there were parties behind him—the large consignees of tea and coffee—who if the Treasury minute be reversed would add twenty-five per cent to their money stock by the withdrawal of chicory from the market. The motion was negatived by 199 to 122.

On the motion for going into committee on the *Inhabited House Duties Bill*, Mr. DISRAELI brought forward the following Financial Resolutions:—"That, according to an estimate of the probable future produce of the existing taxes, submitted to this house by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, it appears that a surplus revenue may be expected in the present year to the extent of about 2,000,000*l.* That in the revenue so estimated is included a sum exceeding 5,000,000*l.*, derived from the tax on income, respecting which an inquiry has been directed to be made by a committee of this house, on the result of whose labours may depend the future renewal or modification of that important impost. That in this provisional state of the financial arrangements of the country, it appears to this house to be most consistent with a due regard to the maintenance of public credit, and the exigencies of the public service, not to make any material sacrifice of public income in effecting such changes as may be deemed advisable in other branches of taxation." He supported his motion at great length, and was briefly answered by the Chancellor of the EXCHEQUER.—Mr. GLADSTONE expressed his wish that Mr. Disraeli had been more explicit, but could not refuse to vote in favour of a motion in accordance with the principles he had always advocated. After some observations by Mr. HUME and Mr. LABOUCHERE the house divided, when Mr. Disraeli's resolutions were negatived by 242 to 129.

On Tuesday, July 1st, the Marquis of BLANDFORD brought forward the subject of *Church Extension*, by moving the following resolution:—"That an humble address be presented to her Majesty, praying that she would be graciously pleased to take into her consideration the state of spiritual destitution existing throughout England and Wales, with a view that her Majesty might be pleased to direct the adoption of such measures as she might deem expedient for affording more efficient relief to the spiritual wants of the people, and for an extension of the parochial system corresponding to the growth of a rapidly increasing population, by the help which might be drawn from the resources of the Established Church itself." His speech was in a conciliatory tone, his object being (as he expressed it) rather to disarm opposition than to cope with it when raised. He observed that the statement of the commission, that 600 new churches were required, was in itself an epitomised proof of the spiritual destitution which exists. In 131 parishes, containing a population in 1841 of 3,972,850, there were 1,895,852 persons who had no opportunity of entering a church; and in the same parishes, considering that one clergyman cannot efficiently attend to more than 2000 persons, there was a deficiency of 237 clergymen. The enormous augmentation of episcopal duties had also rendered an increase of bishops imperative. Since the reformation, the number of the population had increased fourfold at the least, and the clergy in

something the like proportion; but the bishops had only increased by two. Several of them had 1000 clergymen under their charge. It was desired that the ancient type of the episcopos should be revived; that bishops should once more gladden the eyes of the people as "pastores inter pastores"—as spiritual leaders, who, resident among their clergy, diffuse among them the same blessings and the same benefits that the clergy diffuse among their flocks. The Marquis referred to the description of what the bishop of our church should be, given by Mr. Horsman in the debates of last session: no words could more eloquently or truly express his own feeling of the type which he desired to see restored. He went over the recommendations made by the commissioners as to the sources from which to gain funds for these parochial and episcopal extensions—the revenues of the rural deaneries, the sale of the church patronage of the Lord Chancellor, and the improved management of the tithes. In applying the deanery revenues to the extension of bishoprics, it would be well to select the bishops from existing deans: the plan might be adopted with infinite good in Westminster. In other cases, the bishop might act as dean within his own diocese, while the revenue of the dean would establish a new bishopric elsewhere: thus you would at all events secure residence. The proposal for selling the Chancellor's patronage was not new; it was made by Lord John Russell as in reference to a motion of Sir Robert Peel. The plan proposed for the management of the tithes would increase the value of the interest of the church by at least 200,000*l.* a year. He did not ask for a grant of public money, but that the legislature should take immediate means to apply the property already possessed by the church in extending and carrying out those spiritual purposes to which the piety of our ancestors originally devoted it.—Lord IL. GROSVENOR praised the spirit and tone in which the measure had been brought forward. If the Chancellor's livings were sold, they would probably fall into the hands of respectable laymen, who would increase the stipends, and see that the duty was properly administered.—Mr. HUME proposed, as an amendment upon or as an addition to the motion, the insertion of a very long form of words, calling for a return to the house of all property of every kind and sort whatsoever belonging to the Established Church, in separate returns for every bishopric and ecclesiastical body, with the value of the rents and fines of all sorts. He entirely concurred with the object of the original motion, and only desired to point out how that important object can be effected. He introduced a few statements concerning the enormous revenues derived by the best-endowed of the bishoprics.—Sir B. HALL supported both the motion and the amendment; for he was earnestly desirous of church-extension, and he believed that Mr. Hume's amendment would, if carried, reveal "incalculable" funds at the disposal of the church for its own fitting purposes. He then proceeded to support both propositions by an exposure of the many abuses in the management of church property. After dwelling at great length upon various abuses, some of which he described as ludicrously mean, and others as of a graver character, he asked what wonder could be felt that Romanism should grow rampant in a country where such things were practised in the people's church? He advised taking away all the property of the archbishops, bishops, and of all other members of the church, and paying out of that property a respectable stipend to all the clergy; giving the primate, for example, no higher salary than the premier. He would turn all the bishops out of the House of Lords, and then we should be spared the sight of wretched Welsh curates doing almost menial offices in clothes not fit for society. No clergyman should have less than 200*l.* a year. By this plan, also, we should do away with church-rates; dissent would be less popular, Romanism less triumphant, and the church made a blessing to the people. He concluded with some sarcasms at the Bishop of London, for inconsistent and contradictory interference with matters of church ceremonial.—Mr. MORRIS said a few words in defence of the Bishop of St. David's, who, among others, had been attacked by Sir B. Hall.—Mr. A. J. B. HORE complimented Lord Blandford upon the mode in which he had introduced his scheme,

but contended that it was impracticable, and not calculated to remedy the existing evils.—Sir G. GREY said, that the tone of the speech had been most admirable, but the motion was exceedingly vague. There was much spiritual destitution to be relieved; but measures were already in operation which will diminish the evil. The motion implied that such measures had not been taken; and no shorter method than those in operation for removing the difficulties of the subject was pointed out. As to the amendment proposed by Mr. Hume, the information it called for was no doubt very desirable, but it would take years to obtain it. He must move the previous question; not because he did not concur in the object of the motion, but because it would lead to an erroneous view of the opinion of the house.—Mr. S. Herbert supported the motion; Sir R. H. Inglis, Mr. Alcock, and Mr. Goulburn, opposed it.—Mr. HORSMAN dwelt at some length upon the enormous revenues of the bishops, and regretted that the church should be injured by champions of such abuses being found among those who called themselves her friends. He made a long statement of a lease transaction, in regard to which he severely impugned the conduct of the Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol. He insisted that the time was rapidly coming when you must have either a reformed episcopate or none at all.—Mr. WIGAM deprecated the attacks made, without notice, by Sir B. Hall and Mr. Horsman, as most unfair. He should oppose Mr. Hume's motion, but should support that of Lord Blandford, except that he gave no countenance to the proposal for the sale of the Chancellor's livings.—After a few further remarks, Mr. Hume withdrew his amendment, and Lord Blandford's motion was agreed to.

On Wednesday, July 2nd, Mr. BELL moved the second reading of the *Pharmacy Bill*, the object of which he stated to be the improvement of the qualifications of chemists, by establishing the principle that all who prepared medicines and compounded prescriptions, ought to be educated persons, and pass an examination. Mr. Hume and Mr. Henley stated several objections to the bill.—Sir G. GREY observed that this was a complicated subject which should be considered in connection with that of general medical regulations. He concurred in some of the objections, but said, that if Mr. Bell would consent to the bill being hereafter committed *pro forma*, and not ask the house to proceed further with it this session, he should not oppose the second reading.—Mr. Bell assented, and the bill, with this understanding, was read a second time.

On Thursday, July 3rd, the *Oath of Abjuration* (Jews) Bill was read a third time without a division, Sir R. H. Inglis and several other opposing members merely protesting against the measure.—Lord J. RUSSELL alluded to the late Greenwich Election, observing that within these few days a second member of the Jewish persuasion had been elected by upwards of 2000 votes. He (Lord John) was glad to find that Alderman Salomons did not mean to come down to this house to take the oaths before the other house of parliament had decided upon this bill; and he hoped that that house would consider, after the House of Commons had for the third time declared its opinion that Jews ought to sit there, and two bodies of constituents had elected Jews, whether it was not due to the representatives of England, and to the great body of the people, that they should be allowed to consult their own wishes upon the subject.

On Friday, July 4th, the *Ecclesiastical Titles Assumption Bill* was read a third time. Lord J. RUSSELL then moved the omission of the clause inserted on Sir Frederick Thesiger's motion, for making it penal to introduce the bulls, or to publish them, as well as to assume the titles. He briefly repeated the arguments about the vexatious cumulative effect of such a clause.—Sir FREDERICK THESIGER defended his amendments at great length.—The SOLICITOR-GENERAL argued that the amendment would be vexatious, though not persecuting; but Mr. Roebuck pointed out very inconvenient consequences of persecution, involving the bastardy of issue, and the loss of estates, through fanatic protestant proceedings in the courts. The house divided, and rejected the motion of Lord John Russell, by 208 to 129—majority 79. An amendment by Mr. Freshfield was lost for want of a seconder.—Lord John RUSSELL then

proposed his second motion, for omitting Sir Frederick Thesiger's common-informer amendment. The question was left to the house, both by Lord John and by Sir Frederick Thesiger, "without any further argument." The house again declared against the first minister, by 175 to 124—majority 51. In these divisions the Irish Roman Catholic Members took no part: they repeated their course of leaving the house, and washing their hands of the responsibility of the measure. The next step of procedure had to be taken in the midst of the movement occurring on the return of members to the house after a division. The SPEAKER put the question, "That the bill do pass," and looked to the opposition side of the house for the rising of members whom he expected to speak; but no one rose: he paused twice, and still no one rose. Then the division was taken. The numbers were—for the motion, 263; against it, 46; majority for passing the bill, 217. Mr. GRATTAN then moved, as an amendment on the formal question of affixing the title of the bill, that it be entitled "A Bill to Prevent the Free Exercise of the Roman Catholic Religion in the United Kingdom."—Sir JAMES GRAHAM and several other members expressed their regret that the bill had been passed so unexpectedly.—Mr. SERGEANT MURPHY had come down on purpose to speak (as several other members vouched,) and he did not hear the words "That the bill do pass."—Mr. REYNOLDS had found the passage so jammed whilst the Speaker was putting the question, that he and those who were trying to force their way into the house were unaware of what was going on. The matter, however, could not be reopened; and, Mr. Grattan's amendment having been negatived without a division, the bill was ordered, amid cheers from different parts of the house, to be taken up to the House of Lords.

On Monday, July 7, the *Inhabited House Duty Bill* passed through committee, after considerable discussion and several amendments, which were successively negatived.

In a *Committee of Supply* on the civil service estimates, when several sums were voted, the vote of 32,000*l.* for secret service was opposed by Mr. Williams, who moved its reduction to 20,000*l.*, but his amendment was negatived by 140 to 41.

A vote of 98,860*l.* for expenses connected with *Transportation*, gave rise to an animated discussion on the merits of the transportation system, especially with reference to Van Diemen's Land, in the course of which both the Chancellor of the Exchequer and Lord John Russell urged the impossibility of a sudden change. On a division the vote was carried by 98 to 9.

On Tuesday, July 8, Lord R. GROSVENOR moved for leave to bring in a bill for the *Repeal of the Attorney's Certificate Duty*. The Chancellor of the EXCHEQUER opposed the motion, as a regard for the stability of the national finances prevented him from going further in the way of reduction of taxation than he had already announced to the house. The motion, however, was carried by 162 to 132.

Mr. H. BERKELEY then moved for leave to bring in a bill for the protection of the parliamentary electors of Great Britain and Ireland, by the *Vote by Ballot*. He contended that the shield of the ballot was necessary to give the voter due protection against unfair influence—especially the agricultural voters, who were driven to the poll like a flock of sheep to the market town. Intimidation disposed of, he could be well content to let bribery take its chance; intimidation contained within it the seeds of bribery in its worst form. He drew a humorous picture of the tenantry of the landowners, one day figuring as gallant and invincible yeomanry, another day trooping to the poll at the word of command, voting so slavishly that he thought it would save much time and trouble if the steward of the estate were allowed to send in a list of the voters to the high sheriff of the county. He was satisfied that the same system of tyranny and slavery which existed in 1835 continued to flourish in 1851, and referred to the South Notts election as an example. He quoted a striking passage from Defoe, to show that the ballot was advocated by that sagacious politician as a sufficient remedy for the evils of our electoral system so long ago as 1708. He reminded the house that the measure had

the sanction of the Master of the Rolls and of the present Attorney-General and Solicitor-General. If the noble lord at the head of the government could give him any pledge that the measure was to be comprised in the new plan of reform, he would be happy to withdraw his motion.—Mr. ELLIS seconded the motion. Having seen much of contested elections in his part of the country for twenty-five years, he had had opportunities of knowing the excessive amount of intimidation and improper influence exercised on both sides. It was the duty of that house to enable the voter to respect himself; but how could the voter respect himself when he was dragged to the poll to give a vote against his own conscience, on the side of which he did not approve? In literary, charitable, and other institutions the ballot was universal; why then should it not be adopted when the object was to give protection to the voter in the exercise of the most important function which the citizen of a free state should be called on to perform?—Mr. HUME considered that the arguments of Mr. Berkeley were unanswerable, and impressed upon the government the importance of granting a concession which he believed was essential to the future welfare of the country. The motion, however, he said aimed at only a part of his object; he had, therefore, moved an amendment, to extend the elective franchise to all men of full age rated to the poor; to limit the duration of parliament for three years; and to make the proportion of representatives more consistent with the amount of population and property. He urged at some length the expediency of these several changes, expatiating upon the evil consequences which had arisen and would arise from delaying them, and he warned the noble lord that unless the ballot formed a part of his scheme of reform next session it would not give satisfaction. As it was desirable to obtain the opinion of the house upon this question of ballot, he should not move his amendment, but support the original motion.—Captain SCOBELL, adverting to the intimidation which had been employed in the late election at Bath, said he could not, as an honest man and faithful representative, abstain from declaring on this first occasion of his addressing the house, the absolute justice, expediency, and necessity of sheltering men in the exercise of rights which the constitution gave them.—The house having divided, this motion was carried also against the government by 87 to 50.

On Wednesday, July 9, on the motion to go into committee on the *Colonial Property Qualification Bill*, Mr. TUFNELL moved that it be an instruction to the committee to provide for the abolition of any property qualification for the election of members to serve in parliament. He supported his motion on the ground that the old constitutional practice was to leave the electors perfectly unfettered in the choice of their representatives.—Mr. EWART seconded the motion, on the ground that, as a Scotch member, he required no qualification, and he thought it fair to place English and Irish members in the same position.—Lord J. RUSSELL objected to the form in which the motion came, as an amendment upon a bill extending the qualification, but expressed himself favourable to its principle. He suggested that the abolition of all qualification might form a very proper feature in a general measure of reform, as he considered the necessary expense and loss of time involved in the duties of a representative a sufficient guarantee for the character of the members of the house.—After some remarks by Mr. Newdegate, Mr. Henley, and Mr. V. Smith, both amendment and bill were withdrawn, and the order for going into committee was discharged.—The second reading of the *Home-made Spirits in Bond Bill* was opposed by the Chancellor of the EXCHEQUER, on the ground that it would be unjust to the English distillers.—Lord Naas and Mr. Reynolds protested against the Irish and Scotch distillers being sacrificed for the benefit of eleven English distillers.—Mr. Bramston, Mr. Bass, and Mr. Goulburn, supported the opposition to the bill, which, on a division, was thrown out by a majority of 194 to 166.

On Thursday, July 10, the *Inhabited House-Duty Bill* was read a third time and passed, after a protest

from Mr. Disraeli against the bill, as one of the most impolitic measures ever adopted.—Mr. HUME moved an address to the Crown, praying for the appointment of a royal commission to inquire into the *Proceedings of Sir James Brooke in Borneo*, and especially into the attack made, under his advice and direction, upon the Sakarran and Sarebas Dyaks on the 31st July, 1849; and further, that her Majesty would command that the opinion of the judges be taken and laid before the house touching the legality of the holding by Sir James, at the same time, of certain apparently incompatible offices. He reiterated the charge which had been made against Sir J. Brooke on several former occasions. The motion was opposed by Mr. Headlam, Mr. H. Drummond, Mr. Gladstone, and Lord Palmerston; and supported by Mr. Cobden. On a division it was rejected by 230 to 19.

On Friday, July 11th, Mr. M. MILNES, on the part of the Bishop of St. David's, denied the correctness of the statement made on a former evening by Sir B. Hall as to the *Spiritual Condition of his Diocese*, and he also denied the allegation that the right rev. prelate had interfered to prevent the usual visitation of the archdeacons to the diocese.—Sir B. HALL declined to retract anything he had stated, for he had the authority of one of the archdeacons for what he had advanced. He could further state of his own knowledge that the state of the diocese was most disgraceful, many of the churches being without either roofs or windows, and most of them in a very dilapidated condition.

Mr. MOWATT called the attention of the house to the case of the *Rochester Cathedral Grammar School*, and moved for an address to her Majesty, praying a commission to enquire into the administration of the educational trusts confided to the cathedral establishments of the kingdom.—The SOLICITOR-GENERAL said he was a sincere friend to the education of the people, but at the present period of the session he thought it more important that the house should go into a committee of supply than to enter upon an inquiry such as that proposed. The strongest objection to the motion, however, was that it was founded upon a matter which was in due course of adjudication before a proper tribunal, in the case of Mr. Whiston, who would have acted wisely to await the decision of that tribunal, instead of thus bringing the facts of the case before parliament.—Mr. BERNAL regretted that these subjects should become matters of open scandal, and he agreed with the Solicitor-General that Mr. Whiston's case *pendente lite* should not be brought forward for inquiry; but Mr. Whiston's case was but part of a great whole, which imperatively called for inquiry, although the shape in which the question was now brought before the house was most inconvenient. The government was called upon to look into those matters in order that the church might be compelled to carry out the intentions of the founders of such trusts, and not leave these abuses to the chance discovery of individuals.—Mr. M. MILNES contended that the conduct of the dean and chapter of Rochester was characterised by great harshness towards Mr. Whiston.—Mr. R. PALMER defended the dean and chapter of Rochester, and regretted that Mr. Whiston had indulged in asperities against them.—Mr. HUME supported the motion.—Lord J. RUSSELL would not enter into the question whether the dean and chapter acted properly in the case of Mr. Whiston, or otherwise, for he thought the question ought not to be at all entertained in that house while it was *sub judice* before another tribunal.—After some observations from Mr. Hayward and Mr. Mowatt, the motion was negatived without a division.

On Monday the 14th, in answer to a question from Mr. T. Duncombe as to the intentions of the government with respect to legislation on *Water Supply* this session, Lord J. RUSSELL said the course of the government must depend upon the proceedings of the committee to whom the subject had been referred; but, supposing that the committee should not report in time to admit of legislation this session, the government could, of course, take no step in the matter; and as it was desirable that the sewers and the water supply should be under one combined management, if no measure could be introduced this session with respect to water supply, it was intended to propose only a temporary and provisional sewer bill in the present session.

Lord Duncan having inquired what had been done to give effect to the recent *Intramural Interment Act*, Mr. C. LEWIS stated that as yet the commissioners of the Board of Health had effected no purchase of cemeteries, but they were in negotiation for two, namely, the Brompton and the Nunhead cemeteries.—The house then went into committee of supply on the civil service estimates.

In the course of the discussion, Lord PALMERSTON held out very encouraging prospects for the speedy *Extinction of the Slave Trade*. On the coast of Africa, he said, by the great vigilance of our cruisers; by the treaties with native chiefs, which had been observed with great fidelity; by the progress made by the colony of Liberia; by the co-operation of the authorities in the Portuguese settlements, and by the active and friendly assistance of the French and American officers, a great impression had been made on the slave trade on that coast, and, as far as the line, it might be said to be at present almost extinguished. On the coast of Brazil, the British cruisers having been more concentrated, their operations were becoming more effectual, whilst the Brazilian government which had passed a law declaring the slave trade piracy, had at last exerted a proper degree of vigilance and power in enforcing its regulations, and the result had been that in the course of eight months they had almost extinguished the Brazilian slave trade. The number of slaves imported into Brazil in 1850 was not above half that in former years; in the first quarter of the present year very few slaves had been brought, and the government of Brazil was now co-operating heartily with that of England, and fulfilling the obligation of the treaties between the two countries. In Africa itself, legitimate commerce was increasing; an anti-slave-trade feeling was growing up in Brazil, where capital was withdrawn from the traffic in slaves, and invested in other speculations; so that both in Africa and Brazil there had been a most happy change. That this change would be permanent he also confidently anticipated. At last, therefore, our perseverance had been rewarded, if not by the annihilation of this abominable traffic, at least by having brought it within the narrowest limits.

On Tuesday, the 15th, Lord NAAS moved for a committee to consider the state of the *Milling Interests of Ireland*. After a long debate, which resolved itself entirely into the question of free trade or protection, the motion was rejected by 128 to 93.

On Wednesday, the 16th, Lord J. RUSSELL, in answer to another question from Mr. T. Duncombe, finally announced that there would be no attempt on the part of the government to carry any measure on the subject of *Water Supply* this session.

The house then went into committee on the *Law of Evidence Amendment Bill*. The ATTORNEY-GENERAL stated that its object was to enable parties to a cause to give evidence in their own cases.—Some discussion followed upon the question whether an amendment should not be introduced for permitting the examination of married women in cases in which their husbands are interested, and such an amendment (not extending to criminal cases) having been inserted, the bill passed through committee.

The house afterwards went into committee upon the *County Courts further Extension Bill*, the discussion of which occupied the remainder of the sitting.

On Thursday, the 17th, Mr. BANKES moved for a committee to inquire into the allegations of a petition relative to the late *Election for Harwich*. After some discussion the motion was carried by 52 to 80.

Mr. P. MILES brought before the house the subject of *Horfield Manor*, the conduct of the Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol with reference to the lease of that estate, and the charges alleged by Mr. Horsman against the bishop in connexion with that transaction, entering very fully into details in vindication of the bishop. In conclusion, he trusted he had entirely exonerated the right rev. prelate, upon whose character he pronounced a warm panegyric, and, notwithstanding the rather harsh language in which, he said, Mr. Horsman had brought forward his charges, he believed that in the opinion of the house the Bishop of Gloucester would be able still to hold up his head in public as an honest man.—Mr. HORSMAN said that he had founded his charges, which were not confined to a

single individual, upon public evidence, to which Mr. Miles had not made any allusion; and, repeating the statements he had made on a former occasion, Mr. Horsman read the portions of evidence upon which he had based them. Mr. Horsman then reviewed the whole conduct of the Bishop of Gloucester with reference to his episcopal income, alleging that he had received a large amount of revenue beyond that which had been fixed by act of parliament for the united sees; and, in respect to the lease at Horfield, an estate now producing 3000*l.* a year, which had been granted for three lives, not (as he had before stated) of the bishop's own children, but, as it now appeared, of the royal family, Mr. Horsman assigned the grounds upon which he impugned if not the legality, the morality of the transaction; contending that, although the bishop might have exercised a legal right, he held this property in a fiduciary character.—Mr. GLADSTONE examined the principal allegations made by Mr. Horsman, and insisted that that gentleman had entirely failed in proving his accuracy with respect to the imputations he had cast upon the Bishop of Gloucester, whose case was that he had made use of rights which he possessed in common with every ecclesiastical proprietor. It might be that these were rights which ecclesiastical proprietors ought not to possess—and he might not quarrel with this proposition—but the merits of a system were one thing, and it was another to misrepresent those who were only acting under that system.—Sir JAMES GRAHAM maintained that there was nothing in the transaction to affect the Bishop of Gloucester's spotless reputation; and, after some further remarks from Sir R. Inglis, Mr. Aglionby, and others, the discussion terminated.

On Friday, the 18th, Mr. D. SALOMONS, the newly elected member for Greenwich, appeared to take the *Oaths and his Seat*, having requested to be sworn upon the Old Testament, "because that form was binding on his conscience." Mr. Salomons took the first two oaths in the form prescribed; but on coming to the conclusion of the oath of abjuration, he omitted the words, "upon the true faith of a Christian," and saying, "so help me God," kissed the volume. He then attempted to read something from a paper which he held; but the shouts of "order" from the opposition rendered him inaudible. The clerk announced that Mr. Salomons had not taken the oath in the words appointed, and the SPEAKER ordered him to withdraw. Instead of obeying he took his seat upon the front bench on the Liberal side. There were loud calls of "chair," and the SPEAKER informed Mr. Salomons that he had "not taken the oath in the sense in which the house understood the act," and that he must withdraw. Mr. Salomons then rose and retreated until near the bar, but remained actually within the house, until loud cries from the opposition induced Sir W. Molesworth to rise and conduct Mr. Salomons outside the bar.—Sir B. HALL said that he was requested by Mr. Salomons to state that he had withdrawn solely in difference to the Speaker's authority, and to ask the Chancellor of the Exchequer (in the absence of Lord J. Russell) a question. Mr. Salomons was only anxious to try his legal right, and wished to do nothing displeasing or inconvenient. He wished to place himself in such a position that his rights might be ascertained by the tribunals of the nation. If he had not already done enough to authorise a prosecution, he (Sir B. Hall) wished to know whether, if Mr. Salomons again entered the house, government would instruct the Attorney-General to prosecute him?—The Chancellor of the Exchequer replied that the question involved two considerations—as to the right of Mr. Salomons to sit, and as to the institution of a prosecution for penalties. It required very grave treatment, and he was not then prepared to answer it. He thought that no proceedings ought to take place without notice, and that time should be given to consult the act of parliament. He proposed that no proceedings should then take place, but that on Monday, when Lord J. Russell should be present, the question should be resumed precisely where it then was, so that no interest might be prejudiced or advantage taken in consequence of the delay. A confused discussion followed, and the matter finally stood over till Monday.

On Monday, the 21st, the house proceeded with the case of *Alderman Salomons*.—Sir B. HALL repeated his question whether the government intended to prosecute Alderman Salomons for taking his seat.—Lord J. RUSSELL said that the government were not disposed to do so; and Mr. Salomons then took his seat within the house. The SPEAKER requested him to withdraw, but he retained his seat.—Lord John RUSSELL moved that he should be ordered to withdraw, and Mr. ANSTEE moved, as an amendment, that Mr. Salomons was entitled to take his seat. After a confused discussion this amendment was negatived by 229 to 81.—Mr. ANSTEE moved the adjournment of the debate, which was negatived by 237 to 75; and then Lord J. Russell's motion was carried by 231 to 81. The Speaker then directed the Serjeant-at-Arms to remove Mr. Salomons, who had previously declared his readiness to do so should the house so decide, provided enough was done to make it appear that he acted under coercion. The Serjeant accordingly touched his shoulder, and he immediately rose and retired.

On Tuesday, the 22nd, the matter was resumed by Lord J. RUSSELL, who moved that Mr. Salomons was not entitled to sit in the house till he had taken the Oath of Abjuration in the form required by law.—Mr. BETHELL moved, as an amendment, that Baron Rothschild and Mr. Salomons, having taken the Oath of Abjuration in the form in which the house was bound in law to administer it, were entitled to take their seats. After a short debate, this amendment was negatived by 118 to 71. Several motions were then made for the adjournment of the debate and negatived, but Lord J. Russell at length consented to the adjournment.

On Wednesday, the 23rd, Mr. G. F. YOUNG took the oaths and his seat for Scarborough.

The Attorneys' and Solicitors' Certificate Duty Bill, the Sale of Beer Bill, and the Enfranchisement of Copyholds (No. 3) Bill were withdrawn.

The house went into committee on the *Administration of Criminal Justice Improvement Bill*, sent down from the Lords, the details of which, after the nature, scope, and objects of the measure had been explained by Mr. Baines, underwent discussion and amendments. The house then resolved itself into a committee upon the *Valuation (Ireland) Bill*, the clauses of which occupied the remainder of the sitting.

On Thursday the 24th, Sir B. Hall presented a petition from the *Electors of Greenwich*, and announced his intention of moving that they be heard by counsel. It was arranged that the discussion on Lord J. Russell's motion should be postponed till Monday, when Sir B. Hall's motion would be made as an amendment to it.

On the motion for the third reading of the *Customs Bill*, Mr. HERRIES moved as an amendment that an address be presented to the Queen, praying that proper steps may be taken to give effect to the provisions of the act for the repeal of the navigation laws, by which her Majesty is empowered to adopt towards any country that refuses reciprocity such measures as may seem calculated to counterbalance the disadvantages to which British trade and navigation may be thereby subjected. This produced a long debate involving the old topics of protection and free trade, the principal speakers being Mr. Herries, Mr. Labouchere, Mr. G. F. Young, Mr. Wilson, Mr. Disraeli, and Lord J. Russell. The amendment was withdrawn; and the bill was then read a third time and passed.—Mr. HAWES applied for leave to bring in a bill for the arrangement of claims of the *New Zealand Company* on the Crown, and for regulating the affairs of certain settlements established by that company in New Zealand.—Mr. GLADSTONE objected, saying that this being a bill for granting public money, ought to be introduced in a committee of the whole house. Leave was therefore refused.

On Friday the 25th, petitions were presented by Sir B. Hall and Mr. R. Currie, from the *Electors of Greenwich*, which were ordered to be printed and to stand for consideration on Monday next.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL moved the second reading of the *Patent Law Amendments Bill*. Enumerating the formalities which were required before an inventor could secure the protection of a patent, he observed that

no less than seven successive processes had to be completed in the several offices, all of which involved heavy fees, although five out of the number were wholly useless. The actual cost of a patent, if unopposed, was 94l. 6s. for England alone, and if extended to Scotland and Ireland, the expenses would amount to between 200l. and 300l. By the bill now introduced, it was proposed to cheapen the cost of a patent, to abolish the supererogatory legal proceedings, and facilitate the operation of enrolment. The expense was to be divided as well as lessened. Patents were to be granted, extending over the whole United Kingdom for a period of three years, at a charge of 20l., with 5l. additional for stamps. At the three years' end, the term would be extended to seven years, on a further payment of 40l., with 10l. for stamps; and when this prolonged period was expired, the patent right could be continued for other seven years, making fourteen in all, at an additional outlay of 80l., with 20l. stamps. The Attorney-General proceeded to explain the legal machinery by which the new system was to be worked, and which included a board of examiners, qualified to decide upon scientific questions lying beyond the ordinary province of the legal functionaries. After some remarks the bill was read a second time.

The house having gone into committee on the *Metro-politan Interments (Advances) Bill*, a prolonged discussion ensued upon the resolution, by which an advance of 130,000l. was sanctioned to the Board of Health for the purpose of purchasing and opening a cemetery.—The Chancellor of the EXCHEQUER, while declining to assume the whole responsibility of dispensing this advance according to the pleasure of parliament, submitted that until the money was granted, the board could not propose a new cemetery, and until the new cemetery was ready, they could not proceed to close the intramural interment places, so injurious to the public health. Upon a division, the vote was affirmed by a majority of 50 to 26.

PROGRESS OF BUSINESS.

House of Lords.—June 26th.—Charitable Trusts Bill read a second time.

July 1st.—Smithfield Market Removal Bill protested against by the Standing Orders Committee.—Patent Law Amendment (No. 3.) Bill considered in committee.

3rd.—Representative Peers for Scotland Bill read a second time.—Patent Law Amendment Bill read a third time and passed.

4th.—Smithfield Market Bill, resolution to dispense with standing orders.—Purchase of Lands, &c. (Ireland), Bill thrown out on second reading.

7th.—Farm Buildings Bill thrown out.—Smithfield Market Removal Bill read a second time.—Ecclesiastical Titles Assumption Bill read a first time.

8th.—Expenses of Prosecutions (Ireland) Bill read a third time and passed.—Lodging Houses Bill read a second time.

10th.—County Courts Bill, and Jurisdiction in Bankruptcy Bill withdrawn by Lord Brougham.

11th.—Crystal Palace, Mr. Paxton's petition.

14th.—Court of Chancery and Judicial Committee Bill read a first time.

15th.—Cape of Good Hope, Earl of Derby's motion for a select committee negatived.

17th.—Oath of Abjuration (Jews) Bill thrown out on second reading.

18th.—Inhabited House Duty Bill read a second time.

21st.—Turnpike Acts Continuance Bill, and Turnpike Acts Arrangement Bill passed through committee.—Inhabited House Bill passed through committee.

22nd.—St. Alban's Bribery Commission Bill read a third time and passed.—Ecclesiastical Titles' Assumption Bill read a second time.

24th.—Royal Assent given to a number of bills.—Civil Bills (Ireland) Bill, and Chimney Sweepers' Regulation Bill read a second time.

25th.—Ecclesiastical Titles' Assumption Bill passed through committee.

House of Commons.—June 26th.—St. Alban's Bribery Bill read a third time.—Danish Claims, Mr. Roebuck's motion negatived.—Committee of Supply.

27th.—Ecclesiastical Titles' Assumption Bill considered in committee.—Court of Chancery, address agreed to.

30th.—Customs Bill considered in committee.—Inhabited House Bill in committee.—Mr. Disraeli's Financial Amendment negatived.

July 1st.—County Courts Extension Bill considered in committee.

2nd.—Pharmacy Bill read a second time pro forma and with-

drawn.—Public-houses (Scotland) Bill withdrawn.—Medical Charities (Ireland) Bill considered in committee.

3rd.—Oath of Abjuration (Jews) Bill read a third time and passed.—Court of Chancery and Judicial Committee Bill considered in committee.—Woods and Forests Bill in committee.

4th.—Ecclesiastical Titles Assumption Bill past and sent to the Lords.

7th.—Inhabited House Duty Bill, and Woods and Forests Bill passed through committee.—Committee of Supply.

8th.—Civil Bills (Ireland) Bill considered in committee.—Attorneys Certificate Duty, leave to Lord R. Grosvenor to bring in a bill, carried in opposition to ministers.—Vote by Ballot, Mr. Berkley's motion, carried against ministers.

9th.—Home-made Spirits in Bond, Lord Naas's bill thrown out.—Valuation (Ireland) Bill considered in committee.

10th.—Merchant Seaman's Fund Bill considered in committee.—Inhabited House Duty Bill read a third time and passed.—Dyak Pirates, Mr. Hume's motion negatived.

11th.—Court of Chancery and Judicial Committee Bill read a third time and passed.—Committee of Supply.

14th.—Committee of Supply.

15th.—County Court Further Extension Bill considered in committee.—Milling Interest in Ireland, Lord Naas's motion for a committee negatived.

16th.—Harwich Election, select committee agreed to.—Charitable Purchase Deeds Bill withdrawn.—Law of Evidence Amendment Bill passed through committee.—Pharmacy Bill withdrawn.—Victoria Park Bill passed through committee.—County Courts Further Extension Bill considered in committee.

17th.—Committee of Supply.

18th.—Alderman Salomons attempts to take his seat for Greenwich.—Committee of Supply.

19th.—Committee of Supply.—Conveyance of Mails by Railways Bill read a second time.—New Forest Bill passed through committee.

21st.—Mr. T. Collins took the oaths and his seal for Knaresborough.—Case of Alderman Salomons.—Committee of Ways and Means.—Merchant Seaman's Fund Bill read a third time.—Commons Enclosure (No. 2.) Bill read a second time.—General Board of Health Bill, and Conveyance of Mails by Railways Bill went through committee.

22nd.—Case of Alderman Salomons.—Mercantile Marine Bill, Arrest of Absconding Debtors Bill, and Local Acts Bill read a third time and passed.

23rd.—Mr. G. F. Young took his seat for Scarborough.—New Writ ordered for Limerick.—Attorneys Certificate Bill, second reading postponed.—Sale of Beer (No. 2.) Bill withdrawn.—Administration of Criminal Justice Bill considered in committee.—Valuation (Ireland) Bill in committee.—Consolidated Fund Bill read a second time.

24th.—Consolidated Fund Bill passed through committee.—Medical Charities (Ireland) Bill considered in committee.—Salmon Fisheries (Scotland) Bill discharged.—Registration Assurance Bill withdrawn.—Custom Duties Bill; amendment of Mr. Herries withdrawn, and Bill read a third time.—General Board of Health (No. 2.) Bill, and Metropolitan Sewers Bill read a second time.

25th.—Lands Clauses Consolidation (Ireland) Bill, and Steam Navigation Bill passed through committee.—Patent Law Amendment Bill read a second time.—Emigration Advances Distressed Districts (Scotland) Bill passed through committee.—Metropolitan Internment Advances Bill considered in committee; grant of 136,000, out of the Consolidated Fund agreed to.—Poor Relief Act Continuance Bill, Church Building Acts Amendment Bill, Sheep and Contagious Diseases Preventive Bill, Commissioners of Railways Act Repeal Bill, and Representative Peers for Scotland Bill, passed through committee.—Administration of Criminal Justice Bill read a third time and passed.

THE Pope has recently filled up several bishoprics in England in accordance with his decree of the 29th of September last, establishing the Roman hierarchy in Great Britain. They are as follows:—Dr. Grant, of the English College, Rome, who is now Bishop of Southwark; Dr. Errington, who is advanced to the see of Plymouth; Mr. Turner, promoted to that of Salford; Mr. J. Browne, of Sedgewick Park, who goes to Shrewsbury; and Mr. Burgess, named to Clifton, *vice* Dr. Hendren, promoted to Nottingham.

The Pope has issued from the printing press of the Royal Apostolical Chamber an appeal to the piety and charity of the Italians in England, in the shape of a project to build "A Spacious Church in the centre of London, in a fine position in one of the most majestic streets in the city, principally for the use of the Italians, and thence of other foreigners, as well as of the natives." It appears that the site of the new church is to cost 30,000 scudi, or 6000*l.* sterling, and the faithful of all ranks and conditions are stimulated to contribute by the grant of an indulgence of a hundred

days in exchange for the smallest donation. The church will be governed "by a congregation of Italian secular priests founded at Rome, that the Roman spirit may influence the same." It will be provided with preachers and confessors, will be free from any payment for admission, and connected with schools and a residence for the clergy. "The holiness of our Lord Pope Pius IX.," so runs the document, "commends this most interesting work to the care of the Most Rev. Cardinal Wiseman, Archbishop of Westminster Ordinary of London," who in his turn commends it "to the charity of Italian believers and to the zeal of the bishops of Italy,"—and whose commission, doubtless, extends as far as it can be urged in every direction. Subscriptions, or rather "alms and donations of every kind," are received in Rome by several notable personages; amongst whom we find the names of the Prince and Princess Doria Pamphili, the rector of the church of the Holy Saviour in the waves at the Sistine bridge, and other "representatives of the Holy Chair." In addition to the "appeal," there is a "notification" from Ferdinand Minucci, Archbishop of Florence, ordering a subscription in that diocese towards the building of the embryo church of St. Peter,—the Florentine archbishop being stimulated by the "sweet hope that the day is not far distant when the unity of belief will be re-established in that island, which before the fatal schism was termed the Island of the Saints,"—this figure of speech being meant to characterise England. The notification contains the terms of the "indulgence," as follows:—"His Holiness Pius IX., at the request of certain English Catholics, has deigned lately to grant an indulgence of a hundred days to whosoever may recite three *Ave Marias*, with, after each, the invocation *Auxilium Christianorum ora pro nobis*, and plenary indulgence for one day at their own choice to whosoever shall have recited them for one entire month, provided that, having confessed and communicated, he shall pray particularly for the Catholic Church of England."

The *Diocesan Synod* convened by the Bishop of Exeter has finished its sittings. The Dean and some of the Chapter declined to attend, but of the thirty-two rural deaneries only two refused to send delegates. There were present seventeen dignitaries, canons and prebendaries, seven officials, twenty-nine out of thirty-two rural deans, and fifty-eight representatives of the rural deaneries; total, one hundred and eleven diocesan ecclesiastics. The proceedings began on the 25th of June, in the chapter-house. After special prayers, the bishop delivered his address; an historical vindication of diocesan synods, the legitimate means of restoring and vindicating the rights of the inferior clergy. After the address, were read those declarations of faith with regard to baptism, &c., the making of which was the ostensible reason put forward after the Gorham decision for assembling the synod. The declarations had been touched and retouched in details more than once, and suggestions were made in the synod for further amendments. A declaration that the appointment of a see of Plymouth by the Pope "is schismatical and void—setting up altar against altar in our diocese, and usurping the primacy of England"—was unanimously adopted. On the 26th, the declaration on baptism, as finally arranged, was "unanimously adopted." The subsequent proceedings were chiefly discussions on the subjects of education and religious catechising, as to which resolutions were adopted. On the 28th, the synod was dissolved.

The Bishop of Exeter has refused to permit a clergyman to officiate within the diocese, on the ground of his non-conformity with the bishop's doctrine of *Baptismal Regeneration*. A short time since, the Rev. R. Malone, the incumbent of Christ Church, in Plymouth, accepted an appointment in London. The Rev. Mr. Gray, of London was appointed his successor, and presented himself to the Bishop of Exeter to be licensed, when he was subjected to a close examination on the above point, the result of which was, that the bishop refused his admission into the diocese. This occurred too late on Saturday to be communicated in time to the churchwardens of Christ Church, so that when the people came to church on Sunday morning, no clergyman being found who could do duty, the church re-

mained closed, and the congregation was obliged to disperse elsewhere.

Alderman Salomons was returned for Greenwich on the 28th June, in opposition to Mr. Wire, by a majority of 2165 to 1278. Mr. Salomons issued an address expressing his intention of delaying to take his seat while the *Oath of Abjuration Bill* was pending in Parliament, as he desired to take his seat with the direct concurrence of all the branches of the legislature.

Mr. Edward Strutt was returned on the 16th inst. for the borough of Arundel, vacant by the resignation of Lord Arundel and Surrey. Mr. Collins, a Peelite, has been returned for Knaresborough in opposition to Mr. Lawson a protectionist. And Mr. G. F. Young, a protectionist, has been returned for Scarborough in opposition to Lord Mulgrave, the former member.

Two new Roman Catholic Bishops—Dr. Turner, Bishop of Salford, and Dr. Errington, Bishop of Plymouth, were consecrated at Manchester, on the 25th, by Cardinal Wiseman; the Irish Primate Cullen, the Bishop of Beverley, the Bishop of Birmingham, and the Bishop of Northampton, assisted in the ceremony. The spectacle was open to the public. Five shillings was charged for the choir-aisles, half-a-crown and eighteenpence for other places.

A meeting on the subject of *Jewish Emancipation*, called by Baron Lionel de Rothschild, was held in the London Tavern on the 24th. Mr. Raikes Currie was in the chair, and the chief speakers were Mr. John Dillon, Mr. Ingram Travers, Mr. Osborne, Mr. Samuel Morley, Mr. F. Bennoch, Lord Dudley Stuart, Sir Henry Bateman, Mr. Anstey, and Alderman Salomons. The result was a resolution to the effect that ministers can only entitle themselves to the confidence of reformers by being prepared to stand or fall by such measures as the Jew Bill; and the meeting called upon the prime minister, as member for London, forthwith to introduce into the House of Lords, as a cabinet measure, a bill for the total abolition of the present oath of abjuration. A petition was also agreed to, based on the resolution.—Alderman Salomons afterwards met the electors of Greenwich; by whom he was enthusiastically received, and the petition which Sir Benjamin Hall has presented was agreed to.

NARRATIVE OF LAW AND CRIME.

A *DARING Burglary* has been committed in Cheshire. A gang of five men, wearing black masks, and armed with pistols, aroused the family of Mr. Hine, at Hockley, during the night, and demanded all their valuables, threatening to break in if their demands were not complied with; some of the ruffians did force a back-door, but were stopped by an inner-door. Mr. Hine and his son, who are Quakers, consulted; and, to escape a worse fate, capitulated, giving a gold watch and chain and some money to the robbers; who then decamped, declaring that the family had got off a great deal too well. This occurrence has created consternation among the people in the vicinity, who live in lone and unprotected houses.

A *Serious Affray* took place between the men of the 91st Regiment and the police at Liverpool, on the night of the 30th ult., which filled the town with great alarm. The cause of quarrel which led to the outrage on the part of the military, arose from some punishment inflicted on three soldiers of the 91st, at the instance of the police on duty. A number of the soldiers have been fined by the magistrates, and imprisoned in default of payment. The 91st Regiment left Liverpool on the 5th, and was succeeded by the 28th, which seems to have followed its example of coming into collision with the police. A soldier attacked a constable; more of each force came up, and a general struggle ensued; but the police showed much forbearance, and eventually the soldiers were taken into custody by a picket, and marched to the barracks. It is stated that a court-martial will be held on some of the officers of the 91st Regiment, on the charge of being absent from duty when the late conflicts were waging between the men of that regiment and the Liverpool constabulary.

Hayden, the foreman of a brick-yard belonging to the Earl of Leicester at Holkham, has been *Murdered* by Henry Groom, a man also employed on the estate. Hayden, though not a brickmaker, had been appointed foreman, which caused some dissatisfaction. Groom had been employed for years at the Earl's: formerly he was steward's-room boy; but from an accident to his arm, and deafness, he was obliged to take to out-door labour; he had been in the brick-yard, whence he was discharged by the foreman; then he obtained work in the making of a terrace at Holkham Hall. On the 4th instant, Groom seems to have lain in wait for Hayden, remaining in a clay-pit till he came by in his donkey-cart; it is supposed that he had enticed Hayden into the pit on some pretence, and then shot him dead with a pistol loaded with ball. The donkey was found wandering about with the cart; search was made, and the corpse of the foreman was found in the pit lying in a pool of blood. Hayden had been to obtain money to pay the workmen—15*l.*; that money and his watch had been taken. As Groom was seen in the pit by a gentleman a short time before the murder, suspicion instantly fell on him. He was quickly arrested at his home, and the plundered money and watch were found upon him. A pistol recently discharged was discovered in the house. The murdered man was in his thirty-second year, and has left a wife and child; the assassin is forty-nine, and married.

A riot, in which *A Man was Killed*, took place in Shoe Lane during the night of Saturday, the 5th instant. The Irish, who live in Plumtree Court, quarrelled and fought; and the row became so great, that a large body of police were marched to the spot. The Irish were greatly exasperated at this, and resisted the police. The latter used their staves; and during the mêlée, John Hogan was killed by blows of a policeman's staff on his head. At the inquest, witnesses declared that the deceased was not offending when the constable beat him; and he died very shortly after. The jury found it impossible to fix upon the constable who had been the assailant. They returned a verdict tantamount to "Manslaughter against a policeman unknown." The jury then handed the following memorial to the coroner, with a request that it might be forwarded to the proper authorities:—"And this jury are of opinion, that the neighbourhood in which the deceased died is in a most disgraceful state. In the house in which the deceased lies, the drainage, or some other cause, made effluvia so great, that the jury were compelled to leave the place as quickly as possible; and should an epidemic again visit the City, from the dreadful state of these courts they think they would be a nursery for pestilence and disease. They also suggest the propriety of an additional light in these courts, more especially at the Holborn end."

A case of *Revolting Cruelty* has come to light at Salford. The police heard that Esther Swinnerton, a girl of seventeen, was badly treated by her step-mother. The officers went to the house, and found her in a damp cellar, in a shocking condition. She was taken to the workhouse, and died a few days after. At the inquest, the surgeon of the workhouse stated that the deceased was a cripple from curvature of the spine; she was in an advanced stage of consumption, but death had been hastened by diarrhoea and inflammation, the result of neglect, want of nourishment, and confinement in a damp cellar. Several witnesses described the treatment of the girl by her father and step-mother. The man is a collier, and the woman kept a small-ware shop: the husband, though he did not sufficiently protect his daughter, does not appear to have ill-treated her himself; in fact, his wife was "master;" he once talked of destroying himself, from domestic unhappiness. With regard to the step-mother, the disclosures showed most atrocious conduct towards the "cripple." The coroner pointed out, that if the step-mother wilfully accelerated the girl's death, she was guilty of murder. Twelve out of the thirteen jurymen found a verdict of "Wilful murder against Elizabeth Swinnerton."

At the Central Criminal Court on the 7th, James Smith was tried for *Forging and Uttering a Check for 73*l.** Some account has already been given of this case. The prisoner is the son of the perpetual curate of

Barton St. David's, Somersetshire, and his age is twenty-one. From his own admission when arrested, he had forged the name of William Lewis to a check for 16*l.*, and to another for 73*l.*, which he presented at the St. James's Square branch of the London and Westminster Bank, and they were paid. It would seem that he presented another check for 250*l.*, which was not paid, as Lewis had not so much money at the bank. Lewis was examined. He said he was a "jeweller;" he believed the two checks were in Smith's handwriting. Cross-examined, he could only be made to answer by threats of the Recorder. He had been concerned with three men who went to "pick up a flat" at Cremorne Gardens; the three men cheated a Mr. Kerrie of a thousand pounds by false play at cards; witness himself at some of the meetings "packed" the cards, but when they were accused by Kerrie, he turned round against his associates, as a witness against them. He met young Smith at Neath, when the youth was an undergraduate at Oxford; Smith "might have introduced" witness to tradesmen under false names. He knew that the prisoner got a gold chain and an eye-glass from one tradesman, and he purchased the articles of him directly afterwards, at least he "allowed" him the value in an account. The prisoner was indebted to him. He also received a watch and chain from the prisoner at Oxford, but he returned them to him; he might or he might not have been present when these articles were originally obtained from the tradesmen to whom they belonged. The result of their proceedings at Oxford was, that the prisoner was expelled; and he then went to Cambridge, with the view of endeavouring to get admitted into one of the colleges. Witness accompanied him to Cambridge, and one night he played at cards with some of the young collegians. The prisoner entered himself for admission to one of the colleges, but was obliged to withdraw his name. In his address for the prisoner, Mr. Ballantine made full use of the character of Lewis, the "swindler and robber of the worst description," who had seduced the boy from the path of rectitude and honour for his own base purposes, and now sought to destroy him. The Reverend Ebenezer Smith, father of the accused, stated, that before his son went to Oxford his conduct had been so good, that he was a source of habitual comfort to him. In summing up, the Recorder said, the jury, no doubt, would not have convicted on the unsupported testimony of "so infamous a person" as Lewis; but they must remember the young man's own admissions. The jury deliberated for a short time, and returned a verdict of guilty, with a strong recommendation of the prisoner to the merciful consideration of the court. They expressed their indignation at the conduct of the witness Lewis—"one of the greatest villains that ever came into a court of justice."

On the same day, Lewis John Jones, aged twenty-one, pleaded guilty to *Embezzling the Moneys of his Employer*, Mr. Huddleston, the barrister. The case was a very painful one. Mr. Huddleston had kept the accused in his service from boyhood, and behaved to him more like a father than a master. The young man became addicted to betting and the company of loose women, and hence his ruin. He appeared to feel his degradation keenly.

An action of *Assault* at the instance of Lord George Loftus against Mr. Cornewall, lieutenant in the Rifle Brigade, was tried in the court of Queen's Bench on the 3rd instant. According to the plaintiff's statement, the defendant, then a minor, borrowed of him, on the continent, 360 francs, or 12*l.* Soon after the defendant went with his regiment to the Cape of Good Hope, where he remained till last year. On his return, Lord George applied to him for payment, but the defendant entirely denied the loan. Some correspondence ensued, the plaintiff insisting on the debt, and the defendant denying it. Lord George then wrote to the commanding officer of the Rifle Brigade, complaining of Mr. Cornewall's conduct; and it appeared the officers of the regiment investigated the matter, and for their satisfaction the defendant made a solemn declaration before a magistrate denying that he was indebted to or had ever borrowed money of the plaintiff. The affair being arranged with his brother officers, the defendant ob-

tained leave of absence, and then consulted a friend. This gentleman took the opinion of several military officers as to the course the defendant ought to pursue. Under their advice, for reasons which were not disclosed, the defendant was not permitted to call the plaintiff out, but directed to insist on the plaintiff's withdrawing the charge and the offensive expressions he had used, or to chastise him. The defendant acted under their advice, and the assault was the consequence. When the defendant was informed the plaintiff would not retract, he ran up the plaintiff's stairs, and rushed upon him, exclaiming, "Loftus, you are a scoundrel; you have endeavoured to blast my reputation, so take that," and struck the plaintiff several times. The jury returned a verdict for the plaintiff, damages one farthing, and Lord Campbell refused to certify, so as to give the plaintiff his costs.

A case of a very singular character, for *Restitution of Conjugal Rights*, has been argued before the judicial committee of the Privy Council. The Rev. Pierce Connelly and his wife Cornelia Augusta Connelly, are natives of the United States, born at Philadelphia of American parents, and they were married in that city in 1831, being at that time members of the Protestant Episcopal Church in America. Mr. Connelly was then appointed rector of the church of Natchez in the state of Mississippi, where he proceeded to reside until the month of October, 1835. At that time, however, the rector's wife became a convert to the Roman Catholic faith, and was received into the bosom of that church. Mr. Connelly himself was desirous of considering and determining the points in controversy between the two churches more fully in Europe, and with that view he undertook a journey to Rome with his wife. The result was that he, too, was received into the Roman Catholic Church. The converts soon afterwards returned to the United States, and settled in the state of Louisiana, where, in 1840, they formed the design of living apart, with a view to Mr. Connelly's obtaining orders in the Church of Rome. After another journey to Rome, undertaken by the husband alone, and another return to Louisiana, in 1843 they both proceeded to fulfil these intentions, and again reached Europe in the month of December of that year. A petition of Mr. Connelly was addressed to Pope Gregory XVI., and referred by him to the Cardinal Vicar-General and Judge Ordinary of Rome, who pronounced in effect (as is contended by Mrs. Connelly) a sentence of separation accordingly. In April, 1844, Mrs. Connelly became a nun in the convent of the Sacred Heart at Rome, and Mr. Connelly received the first clerical tonsure and assumed the dress of a Romish ecclesiastic. In the month of June, 1845, Mrs. Connelly bound herself, with the concurrence of her husband, by the following vow:—"Almighty and eternal God, I Cornelia, the lawful wife of Pierce Connelly, trusting in Thine infinite goodness and mercy, and animated with the desire of serving Thee more perfectly, with the consent of my husband, who intends shortly to take holy orders, do make thy Divine Majesty a vow of perpetual chastity, at the hands of the Rev. Father Jean Louis Rozaven, of the Society of Jesus, delegated for this purpose by his Eminence the Cardinal Vicar of his Holiness for the City of Rome, supplicating thy Divine Goodness, by the precious blood of Jesus Christ, to be pleased to accept this offering of Thy unworthy creature as a sweet smelling savour; and that as Thou hast given me the desire and power to make this offering to Thee, so Thou wouldst also grant me abundant grace to fulfil the same.—Rome, at the Convent of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, on the eighteenth of the month of June, in the year one thousand eight hundred and forty-five. So it is.—Jean Louis Rozaven, of the Society of Jesus. So it is.—Pierce Connelly—Victorine Bois, of the Sacred Heart of Jesus—Loide de Rochequairie, Rse. of the Sacred Heart of Jesus." From the period last mentioned until May, 1846, Father Connelly and this Reverend Mother (as they were now called) continued to reside in the religious houses in Rome to which they respectively belonged. But at that period Lord Shrewsbury brought Mr. Connelly to England, as his private chaplain, and the lady also came to England, where she became, and now is, the superioress of a community of religious women under the

title of the "Congregation of the Holy Child Jesus," at Hastings, in Sussex, having brought with her from Rome, rules for the government of this community. Subsequently, however, and at some time in the year 1848, Mr. Connelly quitted Lord Shrewsbury, Alton Towers, and the Romish Church. He appears to have renounced the opinions, the costume, and the obligations which that church had imposed upon him; and after a personal attempt to reclaim his wife from her convent, this gentleman proceeded to institute a suit for the restitution of conjugal rights in the Court of Arches. Mrs. Connelly put in an allegation in this suit, in which her claims to separation were strongly stated on the grounds of conscience and humanity; but many important matters in the case, especially the questions relating to domicile, were not raised. The Dean of the Arches rejected this allegation altogether, as an insufficient defence. From this decision an appeal was had to the Privy Council, which decided after two days' argument, that Mrs. Connelly's allegation should be reformed, so as to plead the law of Pennsylvania, where the marriage took place, and the domicile of the parties at Rome, where it was interrupted; so that if these points are raised the cause may come on for further discussion in the Court of Arches in a new shape.

At Bow Street, on the 10th, James Parker, an omnibus proprietor was charged with *Carrying more Passengers than his License allowed*. He was seen in the Strand by a police officer with eleven passengers outside his omnibus. The officer asked him how many he was licensed to carry? He answered, "As many as I please." The officer then opened the door and saw thirteen passengers inside. One, a lady, was compelled to stand. On the panel was a notice that the vehicle was built to accommodate twenty-one passengers, twelve inside and nine out. Mr. Hall, the magistrate, in giving judgment, gave some good advice to the public. He said that the omnibuses were a disgrace to the metropolis. Whenever he saw a person step into a cab he thought to himself "There goes a victim." The proprietors were always ready, on the least pretence, to raise their fare, but never to extend their accommodation. He hoped that no one who had been inconvenienced by cabs or omnibuses would refrain from making their complaints. It was very likely that after the summons had been taken out, some consumptive-looking woman would wait on the complainant, representing herself as the wife of the complained-of, and the mother of ten children, and found a strong appeal on these facts; but he would advise the public to prosecute in every case in which he had been inconvenienced, by want of room or by overcharge. He should fine the present defendant 40s. for the outside overplus, and 10s. for inconveniencing the inside passengers, by cramming in more than he was allowed.

In the Court of Queen's Bench, on the 10th, two actions of *Damages* were tried, at the instance of Mr. Head, the eminent brewer, and his wife, against the Eastern Counties Railway. On the 23rd of December last, Mr. and Mrs. Head were passengers by the Hertford train, which ought to have left the Bishops-gate station at 4.30, p.m., but which did not start until ten minutes later. The Brentwood train, which stopped at all the stations, had only started ten minutes before it, and the Enfield express train, which did not stop until it reached Lea-bridge, started twelve minutes after it, and very shortly after that the Norwich express left the station. It was a densely foggy evening, and the effect was that the Enfield express ran into the Hertford train at the Stratford station, and a great number of the passengers were more or less injured, and among them the plaintiffs, both of whom suffered so severely that they were confined, and unable to walk for several weeks. Verdicts were given for the plaintiffs in both actions, with 500*l.* damages in each.

William Cauty, an elderly man known in "gaming circles," and John Tyler, also an old man, a returned transport, were tried for *Robbery* at the Central Criminal Court, on the 10th. On the 31st of May, a suspicious meeting between the prisoners was observed by two detective officers, who followed them. They walked to the London and Westminster Bank in Charles Street, St. James's Square. Cauty entered the bank; in ten

minutes he came out, and made a signal with his hand to Tyler; then both entered, and staid in the place twenty minutes. On the two succeeding Saturdays, the detectives watched, saw the men meet, and traced them to the bank. Tyler on these occasions carried a great-coat on his arm. It was now deemed necessary to warn Mr. Vile, the manager of the bank, that some villainy was afoot. The cash-box, usually containing a large sum of money, occupied rather an exposed place. Mr. Vile withdrew the money from it, and put in it a few notes and a printed book to give weight to the box. On the 21st of June, the two men were again traced to the bank; but while in the building, a policeman entered to cash a check, and the rogues were frightened away. On the 28th, the detectives obtained permission from Lord Dartmouth to watch the bank from his house, which is on the opposite side of the street. Cauty entered the bank; came out again, lifted his hat, and was joined by Tyler; both entered the bank. In three minutes they came out again, Tyler carrying a bag which appeared to contain a box. The detectives hastened after them, and arrested them. The thieves pretended that they did not know each other. The bag contained the cash-box. Under a seat upon which the men sat when taken to Scotland Yard, a piece of paper was found with these words on it—"To inquire if any cash has been paid into the London and Westminster Bank by the Marquis of Anglesea to the account of Lord William Paget." The use to which this paper was to be put, it was conjectured, was to afford a pretence for going to the bank in order to watch for the favourable moment to get possession of the cash-box. The men were committed for trial by the magistrate at Marlborough Street, on evidence to the above effect. On their trial they pleaded guilty, were convicted, and sentenced to be transported for ten years. Cauty is one of the most remarkable persons of his class, and perhaps the only survivor of the "receivers" and "putters-up" of bank and jewel robberies who flourished in the time of the old police. He has been known to the old police-officers and to the new detectives for about forty years; but his history is principally remarkable in the old police times; a retired police-officer, who has had an intimate acquaintance with him professionally, having declared to the bench his belief that Cauty has had not less than 500,000*l.* worth of property, consisting of jewels and bank-notes, through his hands during the last thirty years.

Mr. Caudwell, a money-lender in Oxford, was tried at the Oxford Assizes on the 16th on the charge of *Shooting* at Mr. Ross, a student. Mr. Caudwell's house is of a singular design, with niches in its facings and walls filled with stucco figures, with battlemented copings, and with a court in front, armed by a low wall, through embrasures of which are pointed some pieces of iron ordnance of full-sized service calibre. Late at night a party of collegians entered the court, and endeavoured to throw the cannons over the parapet into the Thames, which flows below. Mr. Caudwell was awaked, crept to his window, and fired on the intruders a blunderbuss loaded with shot. Mr. Alexander H. Ross, of Christ Church College, received the charge in his head, neck, and shoulders. His companions took him home, and then returned to smash Mr. Caudwell's windows; but being again fired on, though without injury to any of them, they departed. Next day Mr. Caudwell was arrested by the University authorities, and charged with the act as a crime. He avowed the act, and justified it as one of defence to his property; alleging that many similar attacks had lately been made on his premises. He was committed for trial, but admitted to bail. On the trial, Mr. Ross, the gentleman shot at, gave the following evidence—"I am a commoner at Christ Church, Oxford. About half-past twelve on the night of the 26th of June last, I was out with Mr. Haggard, Mr. Arnaud, and Mr. Barton, and we agreed to go down to Caudwell's house. When we got into the small enclosure in front of the house, we tried to overturn the cannons that were there, and then to send some into the river Isis. While we were there we heard a dog bark, and thinking it would disturb Caudwell, we went across the road, loosened the dog from its chain, and chased it up the street. We then

returned to Candwell's garden, and I endeavoured to pull down the figure of a lion's head that was there. Not succeeding in this, I then took hold of a rope that was attached to one of the cannons, threw it over one of the images, and whilst in the act of pulling it down a gun was fired from a window above, and the contents lodged in my right hand, side of my neck, and some in my foot. Anticipating another fire, I ran away, and called to my companions, one of whom took me home to my lodgings, and then went for a surgeon. I am very much injured in my hand, and it is doubtful whether I shall ever recover its use." On his cross-examination Mr. Ross said: "I have been a member of the University nearly four years, and have obtained my degrees. I met with Haggard and Arnaud at the Maidenhead Hotel, where there had been a cricket-match dinner. We drank and smoked there, and were perfectly sober when we left. It was at the 'Tom' gates where Arnaud proposed we should go to Caudwell's. I raised no objection to the proposition; neither did Haggard, nor Barton. It was the first visit I made to Caudwell's. We only went to throw the cannons into the Isis for a little amusement. We were there about three quarters of an hour altogether. I have not been in the habit of going out on these exploits. When I was at Bromley, I and some others went and pulled down an innkeeper's sign, and we afterwards gave him two guineas as compensation for the damage." Mr. Haggard, one of Mr. Ross's companions, said, that after Ross had been taken home, he and Arnaud returned to Caudwell's house, and began flinging stones at the bedroom window. The stones might have been as large as an inkstand—they were a "comfortable" size to fling at a bedroom window. Both of them were quite indifferent as to whether the stones hit Mr. Caudwell or his family. A second shot was fired, but they were out of its reach. The Jury returned a verdict of "not guilty," which was received by applause in the court.

On the following day Mr. Caudwell was tried on a charge of *Perjury*, quite unconnected with the preceding case. In 1849, Caudwell induced Golding, a tradesman, to sign two bills of exchange, to accommodate a Mr. James, and to lend him 2*l.* in cash for James's use; Golding only intended to sign one bill, and the other signature was obtained by trick,—Golding seeming to have acted in a very simple manner, signing merely because Caudwell put the paper before him. James turned out to be a man of straw, and Golding had to pay both the bills. He sued Caudwell for the 2*l.* in the County Court; Caudwell there swore that he had lent the money to Golding, who had since repaid him; the judge did not believe him, gave judgment for the plaintiff, and refused a new trial. Then Golding entered plaints in the County Court against Caudwell for the amount of the bills, on the ground that he had accepted them for the accommodation of Caudwell. The latter thereupon applied for a certiorari to Mr. Justice Talford to remove him into one of the superior courts, on the ground that the Judge of the Oxford County Court had conceived a most unfounded prejudice against him; and he made an affidavit, in which he repeated what he had sworn on the trial, stating that the judge had declared his conduct most suspicious and discreditable, and refused him a new trial, though he was prepared with the evidence of a Mr. Hitchcock to prove what he had alleged. He specifically stated, and it was upon these statements the present indictment was founded, that he lent Golding 2*l.* to advance to James on the 18th day of May, 1849; and that Golding came the next day to his house and repaid him the said sum of money; and that after the report of the trial appeared in the local newspapers, Mr. Hitchcock called on Caudwell and reminded him of the fact that Golding had paid him the 2*l.*, and that Hitchcock was at deponent's house when Golding called, and addressing Caudwell, said, "Here is the 2*l.*, and thanks." Upon this affidavit a certiorari was granted. The real fact was, that Hitchcock had seen a man named Jervis pay 2*l.* to Caudwell; Caudwell told him that this person was Golding, took him to Jervis's shop, and induced him to sign a paper,—he, thinking Jervis was Golding, declaring that he had seen Golding repay the 2*l.* The case was made out to the satisfaction of the Jury, who

quickly found a verdict of "guilty." Mr. Justice Erle said it was as bad a case as could well be conceived, and passed a sentence of seven years' transportation. Caudwell, who was not in court, made a hasty retreat from the town.

There has been a *Duel*, which will help to keep "affairs of honour" out of fashion. Two clerks having quarrelled about a young lady, they agreed to settle their differences by a duel at Highgate. One did not appear in the field; and his second was so exasperated by the jeers of the other party, that he demanded "satisfaction." Accordingly, he and the original "principal," who was present, exchanged shots; the irate second was grazed on the cheek, while his bullet passed through his opponent's hat. They then shook hands, and resolved to kick the recreant clerk whenever they caught him.

An old man named Cross, formerly a farmer, being destitute, went to the house of a daughter at Warton, in Westmoreland, to ask for a home under her roof. The modern Goneril refused to receive him, upon which he left the house, and *drowned himself* in a canal over which he had to cross.

William Henry Barrett, who was lately sheriff of Gloucester, where he carried on a large business as a miller and corn dealer, has suddenly *Abandoned*. A charge of forging a bill of exchange has been made against him, and a reward of 100*l.* is offered for his apprehension.

A case of great hardship came before the Marlborough Street Police Court on the 16th. Ann Hicks, a miserable-looking woman, was charged with *Attempting to sell Cakes near the Crystal Palace*. She stated that she had once been the happy occupant of a stall in the Park, which had descended to her from her grandfather and father; the former having assisted to save George II. from drowning in the Serpentine. About seven years ago, Lord Lincoln permitted her to build a stone lodge in the Park; she spent all her savings, 130*l.*, in erecting it. In November last, Lord Seymour ordered all stalls to be removed from the Park. Mrs. Hicks appealed in vain; she was ejected, her lodge pulled down, and only a years' lodging-money at 5*s.* a week given to her—no compensation for her lodge. To gain support, she had tried to sell cakes in the park. The magistrate had some difficulty in making her understand that it was an offence to sell cakes in the Park. If she would promise never to do the like again, he said, he would discharge her. She could not promise. What was she to do to support herself and child? She supposed her fate would be the same as had attended the other poor creatures who had been deprived of their bread by the commissioners. One who had kept a stand for twenty years at the Victoria Gate had gone out of her mind in consequence of this eviction; a second was in Kensington workhouse; a third was in St. George's workhouse; and she met a fourth that morning, nearly broken-hearted, trying to sell medals in the Park. At last a reluctant promise not to sell cakes in the Park again, was extracted, and she was set at liberty. The case has attracted much attention, and subscriptions have been made for the poor woman's benefit.

An important point of *Banking usage* has been settled by the decision in an action, Bellamy v. Messrs. Coutts and Co., tried by Baron Martin and a special jury. Mr. Bellamy was trustee of the property of the children of a Reverend Edward Frank, who died lunatic in 1834. The solicitor of the trust was that Mr. Geary, who was transported for forging the signature of the Accountant-General in Chancery, two or three years ago. Mr. Bellamy had to pay a sum of 2596*l.* 17*s.* into the Court of Chancery, and he drew a check for that amount upon his bankers, the defendants. This check was "payable to Mr. Geary or bearer;" but, with proper precaution, there were introduced into its body the words "General unpaid costs account;" and it was "crossed" to "the Bank of England, on account of the Accountant-General." Mr. Geary struck out the crossing, recrossed it to "Messrs. Gosling and Co.," his own bankers; and paid it to them towards his own account. It was presented by them and cashed; and the co-trustees brought this action against Messrs. Coutts and Co., on the ground that they had acted in breach of

their duty as bankers, in paying a check the original crossing of which had been thus erased, &c. The heads and chief clerks of all the great banking firms and companies in London were examined as to the usage: the evidence showed that such a check ought not to have been paid without "inquiry"; and there was very weighty evidence to show that such a check ought to have been "thrown out and not paid at all." The jury found a verdict for the plaintiff; stating their strong opinion that by banking usage "such a check ought not to have been paid at all"—"not even to the Bank of England," to whom it was originally crossed, much less to Messrs. Gosling and Co., in spite of the direction in the body of the check, and of the original crossing.

A Desperate Fight for the possession of a Railway Tunnel took place on Monday the 21st, near Camelden, a village in Worcestershire. Marchant, a contractor, having failed to complete his contract for the roadway through Muckleton Tunnel, on the Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton Railway, the works were given over to Messrs. Peto and Betts for completion. Marchant resisted. On Sunday night the Peto party, 500 strong, marched down to Muckleton Tunnel, in order that they might be first on the ground. On reaching the Worcester end of the tunnel, the first detachment of about 200 men was met by Marchant, who armed to the teeth with pistols, barred the way and dared them to come on. The leader of the invading force, Mr. Cowdery, ordered his men not to strike a blow, while he carried on a parley. But the negotiation failed; and peremptory orders issuing from Mr. Brunel, the men made a desperate rush upon the Marchant division, and were repelled with the casualties of broken heads and three dislocated shoulders. Hitherto, it appears, the "navvies" had fought with feet and fists; but one of Marchant's men drawing a pistol, he was seized and a deep wound was inflicted on his skull. This daunted Marchant, who retreated, and the army of Peto remained in possession of the field. Marchant, however, returned with some policemen from the Gloucester constabulary, a body of privates of the Gloucester Artillery, and two magistrates, who instantly began to read the Riot Act. But a second engagement began under the very nose of the peace-officers, and several combatants came off with broken limbs. Reinforcements now poured in; and Marchant, feeling defeat inevitable, adjourned with Mr. Brunel, in order that some amicable settlement might be made. The upshot was, that Messrs. Cubitt and Stephenson were appointed arbitrators, and the works suspended for a fortnight.

Mary Powell, wife of a clerk at Liverpool, has *Killed her Two Children* and attempted to destroy herself while in a state of insanity. The husband is dissipated and had refused to support his family; the mother and children went into the workhouse; for two months the woman was treated as a lunatic, but after that she appeared to have recovered her senses. She applied to the governor to be discharged from the house; and he consented; then it appears, she sought aid from her husband, but in vain. She was seen in the street exhibiting signs of madness; she threw an infant on some steps and fled; the child was dead, having been strangled. Subsequently the mother jumped into the river, but was rescued alive. She told where the body of her other child would be found: she had strangled it also.

At the Nottingham Assizes, on the 25th, Sarah Barber, a young woman of 22, was convicted of the *Murder* of her husband by administering arsenic to him. The crime was proved by a large body of circumstantial evidence, and the prisoner was condemned to death and left for execution. Robert Ingram, a young man, was tried along with her as her accomplice, and acquitted.

NARRATIVE OF ACCIDENT AND DISASTER.

THE dreadful *Colliery Explosion* near Bristol, on the 20th ult., which was briefly noticed in last month's "Narrative," was attended with circumstances of extraordinary interest. The pit was sunk about eight years ago; it is very deep, but very free from water and

choke-damp. The main shaft extends 810 feet down, but at some yards along the workings of the top seam, a second additional shaft, called a tip-shaft, is sunk from the upper into the lower seam; workings are being opened into still deeper seams. At eleven o'clock in the morning, an ascending coal-truck knocked away the timber framing, and caused the sides of the shaft to fall in and completely choke the bottom of the main-shaft up above the horizontal working in the upper seam. The news soon spread, and the pit-mouth was crowded with the relatives of the poor miners who had been engulfed. One woman sat on the ground frantically crying that her father, uncle, brother, husband, and son, were all buried alive. The attempt to rescue the miners was instantly commenced, but it was perilous and slow. Only three men could work at once, and they were in constant danger from the looseness of the shaft-sides, whence masses of soil continued to fall. Mr. Knight, proprietor of an adjacent pit, went down first, and then men were set to work; but everybody feared the task was hopeless, for the ventilation of the mine would be stopped, or checked, so as to destroy life in a few hours. It was evening of that day before they could communicate with two men in the upper seam; and when food had been sent down to them, it still seemed impossible to get them out, for they were too weak to cling to ropes, and nobody would volunteer to go down and assist them. Mr. Goulstone, one of the proprietors, looked round the crowd and said, "Will no one try to save them?" when a modest-looking, indeed rather an effeminate-looking youth, named James North, said, "I will;" and soon after he did enter the bucket, over which powerful shields had been fixed, and descended to the men. Silence was strictly enjoined, and attention was stretched for the signal to haul up. At length the signal was received, and in a few minutes the men appeared, weak and exhausted. They stated that the air was so bad that no candle could be got near the "tip-shaft," leading to the lower seam. One of them felt sure that all below must be dead; the other still hoped, and thought exertions should be made. James North again volunteered; and, encouraged by his example, five other men now offered to go down. They laboured to restore the ventilating apparatus, but were driven up again without any success. North had crept to the edge of the pit-shaft, and shouted and hammered for several minutes, but got no signal of life in return. The labour was continued, and at last the ventilation was enough restored to allow the men to erect a windlass, and lower North down the tip-shaft. He found the miners alive, huddled together near the blocked-up main-shaft, engaged in prayer. They had worked for hours endeavouring to clear the main-shaft, had carried tons of the *débris* into the workings; but their lights went out, and they gave themselves up for lost. Crowding to the fresh earth in the main-shaft, which gave out fresher air for breathing, they prayed to God. The scene at the pit-mouth, as they appeared among their relatives one by one, nearly lifeless with exhaustion, was affecting. None were dangerously ill, and all soon recovered.

Lieutenant H. P. Sale, of the 13th Native Infantry, son of the late Sir Robert Sale, has lost his life by a *Melancholy Accident*. He was stationed with his battalion at Jutog, near Simla, and, on the 30th of April, went down towards Kalka for the purpose of meeting a detachment escorting treasure from that place. After encamping near the river at Hurreepoor, he strolled up the hill in the neighbourhood with his gun, whilst the men were cooking their dinner; he had not been long absent, when, to the surprise of the Goorkhas, he fell from a tremendous height into the river close by them. He died in half-an-hour, perfectly insensible.

The American emigrant ship *Halcyon*, which sailed from Liverpool on the 17th ult., with upwards of 300 passengers, principally Irish and German emigrants, for New York, was *Lost on her Passage*. The whole of the passengers and crew, with the exception of one woman and a child, were rescued, having been taken on board, almost in the last extremity, by two New York ships on their way to Liverpool.

A singular and *Fatal Accident* occurred at Woolwich about four o'clock on the 10th inst., when a very

respectably-dressed woman, who was standing on Roff's pier waiting for a steam-boat, had her parasol caught by a gust of wind, and was herself blown into the river and drowned. No person present was acquainted with her, or knew her name or address.

A frightful *Railway Accident* occurred on the 12th, on the Pontop and Shields Railway at Eden Hill, near Chester-le-Street, when an engine employed in hauling up iron-stone, on which four persons were sitting, besides the engine-driver and stoker, plunged over an embankment, a height of about twelve or fourteen feet. The fireman and a person named Swinburne, partly jumped and were partly thrown from the engine to a considerable distance, but were not seriously hurt. The engine fell with its funnel towards the embankment, and then rolled over on its side, burying the other four men under it, killing two poor fellows—J. Mann, an engineman, and W. Richardson, a bank-rider, who were quite dead when taken out, and were bruised in a most shocking manner, the side of the engine having fallen upon them. A young man named Moffet, a fitter, and a pitman, a stranger, were more fortunate; having fallen where the pressure was less violent, they were dug out with each a broken thigh.

Another *Railway Accident* happened on the 14th. While the mail train of the Bristol and Exeter Railway was on its way towards Bristol, and had arrived within a mile or two of the terminus, it was discovered, to the consternation of the passengers, that one of the carriages was on fire. Efforts were made to signal the engine-driver, for a time ineffectually, as the train was carried full a mile before it was pulled up. Fortunately, it was nearing the city, and had to pass through a densely populated district, and the inhabitants of the houses skirting the line gave the alarm as it passed them, which drew attention to the accident, when the train was stopped in sufficient time to prevent any very serious consequences.

Mr. Henry Fazakerley, a young gentleman who had just succeeded to the Gillibrand Hall and Fazakerley estates, and Mr. James Green, a young friend from London, with a miner and an underlooker, have *Perished in a Coal Pit*, at Chorley. The gentlemen descended the shaft from curiosity. The party had an unprotected light; an explosion of fire-damp ensued; and all four were killed. From subsequent inquiries, it appears that the pit was a dangerous one to descend, the ventilation having been very defective. Mr. Fazakerley and Taylor, a miner, descended the deep shaft first; their lights were extinguished; unwarned by this, Taylor returned to the surface, and descended with Mr. Green and Billinge, Taylor taking lighted candles and a flaming torch: Mr. Smith, a friend of Mr. Fazakerley, declined to make one in the dangerous adventure. When all arrived at the bottom of the shaft, they walked with the blazing torch up the only working; an explosion ensued, and the scorched and bruised bodies were hurled along the gallery into the water of the "sump-hole" at the foot of the shaft.

SOCIAL, SANITARY, AND MUNICIPAL PROGRESS.

THE Lord Mayor, on the 28th ult., gave a great Banquet to the Royal Commissioners, in *Celebration of the Great Exhibition*. Covers were laid for above 200 guests in the Egyptian Hall, which was tastefully decorated for the occasion with a variety of flags and banners. Several very interesting speeches were made in the course of the evening, especially by Earl Granville, Lord J. Russell, and Mr. Paxton. Earl Granville, in returning thanks for the honour which had been done to the Royal Commissioners, adverted at some length to the strenuous efforts made by Prince Albert in promoting the objects of the great gathering of nations.—Lord J. Russell said, that the Exhibition had already run a great proportion of its course, and that the time was approaching when all the wonders of art and mechanism they had seen there would disappear and vanish away. "But," he continued, "there are many things which, I trust, will not vanish away.

There will be, in the first place, the recollection of all those who were present at the Exhibition—of the wonderful ingenuity and skill displayed by the various nations of the world in the production and manufacture of the works of fine art they had sent to the Exhibition. There will not vanish away the instruction which many have reaped from the daily studies of the objects there exhibited. There will not vanish away the recollection of that useful collection, which will make some of the rarest and newest inventions of the present day become common as air, and minister to the comforts and happiness of millions in future ages. There will not vanish away that feeling which the artisans and labourers who have come from a distance must have, that in providing that Exhibition of which Prince Albert gave the notion and the suggestion to the country—his comfort, his welfare, and his enjoyment have been cared for, and he will go back a more instructed, and, I trust, a better man, for that which he has seen in the Exhibition. Other things, I trust, will not disappear, when all the objects we see there are scattered over the different parts of the earth. There will not, I trust, disappear that feeling of friendship and brotherhood which has existed, when the nations of the earth have been, as it were, shaking hands with each other in the midst of that Exhibition—that feeling of friendly rivalry for objects calculated to promote the good of all—that feeling of friendship and esteem for each other—that unwillingness to do anything that might promote anger and dissension—and the wish that, on the other hand, concord and peace should reign throughout the earth. These are things which I trust will not pass away with the passing sights of the Exhibition; and if that be so, those who have in any degree co-operated in producing these effects will have a proud reflection to make, and I trust that the millions of the earth will gain benefit by the proceedings of the present year."—Mr. Paxton concluded an interesting speech by making an appeal in behalf of his building. He referred to the great meeting held in that hall for the purpose of encouraging this Great Exhibition upon its first announcement, and he had no doubt that it was to the exertions of the citizens of London that they owed very much of the success which had marked its completion; and he begged of the Lord Mayor to come forward again and arouse the City of London to the necessity of petitioning the Houses of Parliament, in order that the Great Exhibition building might be permitted to remain in Hyde Park, as a monument of British enterprise. If he felt confidence when he first brought forward his design, that it would answer for the purposes of the Great Exhibition, he had now far more confidence that it would answer the purpose of a winter park and a garden for this great metropolis. The company present expressed their concurrence by loud and general cheering.

A meeting of authors and publishers was held at the Hanover Square Rooms on the 1st instant, in consequence of the recent decision by Lord Campbell, in the Court of Error, of the question of *Literary Copyright*. Sir Bulwer Lytton presided; and among those present were Mr. R. H. Horne, Mr. John Britton, Mr. Howitt, Mr. George Cruikshank, Dr. Worthington, Mr. Henry Colburn, and Mr. Henry Bohn. The chairman opened the business. He combated the idea that the act of Queen Anne includes foreigners, and mentioned that Voltaire published one of his works in this country by subscription. Voltaire was the friend of Walpole; he knew personally all the persons concerned in passing the act of Anne, and he obtained subscriptions to the amount of 6000*l.*; but he never could get copyright, and never supposed he possessed it. He wrote an essay in English, and translated it and corrected it in French; but the essay was reprinted by others without his corrections, and with all its faults, and he was almost driven mad by the annoyance. Again, his complete works were published at Oxford, not in his own name, but in that of his father, Arouet. Yet he never attempted to repress either of these acts as piracies. Lord Campbell, in his judgment, was equally wrong in his illustrative arguments about Rapin and De Lolme: neither of these men asserted the copyright attributed to them. Indeed, Lord Campbell seemed to have de-

cided the question according to his views of literary property and political economy, rather than as a judgment of law. The decision ruined all prospect of international copyright with France and America, and would make the International Copyright Act so much parchment for battle-foes; for foreigners would not buy of us that which they could take without buying. The effect on literature, as an international whole, would be disastrous. In America (said Sir E. Lytton) where they get the works of Macaulay for nothing, they are ceasing to get any solid works of their own. So in Belgium, where they are as much advanced in all industrial arts as in America: there is positively no national literature there. About a century back, it gave promise of a healthy existence; now it is thoroughly extinguished, owing to the pirated editions of French works published there; and so it will be in America.—Their Cooper and Irving are children of a past generation, and none are rising in their stead, with the honourable exception of Mr. Prescott. Mr. Henry Bohn moved a resolution, that the decision of the Court of Error must prove extremely prejudicial to the interests of British literature, while it removes the material inducement to the acceptance by foreign states of the International Copyright Act. Dr. Worthington seconded the resolution. Mr. Ernest Jones, the Chartist, moved an amendment, to the effect that the decision is a satisfactory step towards international copyright; which was seconded by Mr. Wilkes, bookseller, of Craven-street. Mr. Henry Colburn supported the resolution, and it was carried by a majority. Mr. Cruikshank moved a resolution, affirming that the expense of contesting the law in the ultimate tribunal ought not to be borne by an individual, but that a society should be formed, and public subscriptions raised, for the purpose. Mr. Henry Mayhew proposed an amendment, but withdrew it, and the resolution was carried.

The *British Association for the Advancement of Science* commenced its session for this year at Ipswich, on the 2nd inst., under the presidency of Professor Airy, the Astronomer Royal. Prince Albert is president of the public Museum there, and the citizens thought it a good opportunity to invite him to do them a double favour by receiving an address in that special capacity and by being present at the scientific *réunion* in their town. The Prince accepted the invitation, and arrived in the town on Thursday. The authorities received him in state, read to him a loyal address, and received his answer. His Royal Highness passed the night in the house of Sir W. Middleton, of Shrublands. He returned from Ipswich on the 4th, having previously laid the foundation-stone of a new Grammar School, and attended some of the sectional meetings of the Association. Among the papers read there, one by M. Dumas, the great French chemist, raised much philosophic excitement. It is described as "On certain relations between atomic weight and space of chemical bodies, and the probability of not only transmuting metals, but of originally creating them." Professor Faraday is stated to have been "delighted with the logic and revelations," and to have pledged himself to follow up the investigation.

On the 7th, Dr. Danbeny read a paper to the Chemical section, in which he objected to the complicated and uncertain nomenclature of our chemists, and proposed a new nomenclature. On the 8th, the Astronomer Royal delivered a discourse on the approaching eclipse of the sun; and Captain Johnson read a paper on the deflection of compasses caused by telescope iron funnels in steam-ships. On Wednesday, the proceedings were somewhat hastily wound up. It is stated that the sum received was not satisfactory—only 620*l*. The Association adjourned till August 1852; when the annual meeting will be held in Belfast.

The Bishop of Durham has bestowed 15*l*. towards the erection of an *Independent Chapel* in Newcastle-upon-Tyne, accompanying his donation with the following letter, dated the 7th of June:—"Sir,—Although with ample means at my disposal, I can scarcely satisfy the demands of my own church and my own people; yet I have never forgotten that all Christians are brethren, and that, however we may differ as to the meaning of Scripture upon some points of doctrine or discipline,

very few Protestants fail to inculcate what is essential in Christianity. I am painfully aware of the spiritual destitution of Newcastle, of its increasing population, and of the pains which have been taken to disseminate infidelity and Socialism. I cannot, therefore, feel myself justified in resisting your appeal on behalf of a more spacious and commodious place of worship, and especially for a larger establishment of schools in the principles of revealed religion. Towards those joint good purposes you and the congregation will be pleased to accept the enclosed cheque."

The following article of news, in a Waterford paper, shows the *Immense Mining Resources of Ireland*, and the advantages beginning to be derived from them:—"Mining agents and inspectors from the firm of Rothschild and Baring, of England, are almost every second day visiting and inspecting the newly-discovered mines, and are seeing the Marquis of Waterford this week, on whose property they are, to make the necessary arrangements with him and to begin to work them at once. Judging from all the circumstances which have already transpired relative to these works, it is extremely probable that, in the course of a month or so, 2000 or 3000 of our poor starving labourers will be employed in these valuable works; and nowhere is to be found a finer or more honest set of labourers than live in the vicinity of these mines. The three mines are situated in the parish of Clonea, in this county, and when opened will drain the parishes of Newton, Portlaw, Fews, Clonea, and Rathcormick of the masses of idle and wretched labourers who are strewn in such a horrible condition on the road-side, like so much useless lumber or the dead bodies of a vanquished army on the field of battle."

A shipwrecked vessel has been *Recovered* by a method which is worthy of notice. The Peterhoff steamer, built as a yacht for the Emperor of Russia, struck on the rocks off the island of Oessel, in October last, on her way to St. Petersburg. Various attempts were made by the captain and crew of the vessel to get her off, assisted by some officers and men sent by the Russian government, but without success. The vessel stuck fast on the ridge of rocks with a hole in her bottom; and, being constructed of iron, she was abandoned by the Russian authorities to the agent of the company in London who had insured her. The company sent out an able officer—Captain Fell—who after great exertions succeeded in getting her off the rocks. He let the water into every part of her, and allowed her to remain full all the winter. This bold experiment had the effect of preserving her from being battered by the winter storms; and in the spring the vessel was raised, and, after being partially repaired, floated to Riga, and underwent a more thorough repair. She was brought by stages from Riga to Elnoroe, Hamburg, and thence to London; and is now in the East India Docks, little the worse for her long immersion.

The *Royal Agricultural Society* has held its annual meeting, this year, in the Home Park of Windsor; the Queen and Prince Albert having gone down specially to see the show on the first day, Monday, the 14th. It is admitted to have been an excellent exhibition of British stock. The classification of the cattle has been extended from four to many more classes, embracing the breeds of Scotland, Ireland, Wales, and the Channel Islands. All the beasts are reported as having been more than usually good; the South Down sheep, the short horns, the Herefords, and the pigs, as having been the "strongest points." The show was largely attended on Tuesday; and on Wednesday, the day of the customary dinner, the "yard" is reported to have been inconveniently crowded. The Duke of Richmond presided at the dinner. The principal speakers were the Duke himself, Prince Albert, M. Van de Weyer, the Belgian Minister, and Lord Ashburton. The speeches were of the usual complimentary character. The President elect is Lord Ducie, who was unable to attend from indisposition.

The annual returns of the *Municipal Poor Schools of Berlin* show that last year about 23,000 poor children received daily instruction, at a total cost of 19,650*l*. sterling, or about 17*s*. a head per annum, or fourpence per week.

The distribution of prizes to students in the faculty of

Arts at the *London University* took place on the 5th. Sir J. Graham presided. The three Andrew scholarships were gained by Mr. John Power Hicks (100*l.* a year), Mr. William Lewis, and Mr. James Savage (50*l.* a year each).

The general results of the *Census in Ireland* are of a painful character. It appears that the present population is a little more than 6,500,000. The returns of the three preceding censuses were:—in 1811, 8,175,124; in 1831, 7,767,401; and in 1821, 6,801,827. So that the population of Ireland has diminished by a million and a half during the last ten years, and is not greater now than it was thirty years ago. It further appears that there is a great diminution in the number of houses as well as of inhabitants; that there is a decrease in the population of every county except Dublin; and that there is an increase in all the towns, amounting in Belfast to 32 per cent, and in Galway to no less than 43 per cent. The emigration from Great Britain and Ireland during the last ten years amounted to 1,494,786 persons; of whom it is estimated that nearly nine-tenths were Irish. And the population of England and Scotland has been increased by emigration from Ireland.

The influx of visitors to the *Great Exhibition* continues undiminished. On the 15th, a day when the price of admittance was a shilling, the number rose to the unprecedented amount of 74,122, and the sum of 3509*l.* 8*s.* was taken at the doors. The total amount of the money received, from the opening of the Exhibition, to the 18th instant inclusive, is 305,119*l.* 12*s.*

The *Peace Congress* has had its meetings this year at Exeter Hall, under the presidency of Sir David Brewster. The most remarkable speakers were the Chairman, Mr. Cobden, Mr. Vincent, M. Emile de Girardin, Mr. Samuel Gurney, M. De Cormanin, and Mr. Elihu Burritt. The proceedings, which occupied two days, were in the same spirit as those of previous years.

The Select Committee appointed to inquire into the present state and operations of the law relating to *Newspaper Stamps*, have made their report. They place in a strong light the evils and inconveniences of the present system, and conclude with the following summary of their views:—"Your committee consider it their duty to direct attention to the objections and abuses incident to the present system of newspaper stamps, arising from the difficulty of defining and determining the meaning of the term 'news;' to the inequalities which exist in the application of the Newspaper Stamp Act, and the anomalies and evasions that it occasions in postal arrangements; to the unfair competition to which stamped newspapers are exposed with unstamped publications; to the limitation imposed by the stamp upon the circulation of the best newspapers, and to the impediments which it throws in the way of the diffusion of useful knowledge regarding current and recent events among the poorer classes, which species of knowledge, relating to subjects which most obviously interest them, call out the intelligence by awakening the curiosity of those classes. How far it may be expedient that this tax should be maintained as a source of revenue, either in its present or in any modified form, your committee do not feel themselves called upon to state; other considerations, not within their province, would enter into that question. But, apart from fiscal considerations, they do not consider that news is of itself a desirable subject of taxation."

On Sunday, the 27th, two more of the prelates nominated by the Pope to dioceses in England, were consecrated at St. George's Cathedral, Southwark. The ceremonial was, in all respects, a repetition of that performed at Birmingham on the previous day. Amongst those who took part in the proceedings were Cardinal Wiseman, Dr. Morris, Dr. Ullathorne, Dr. Briggs, Dr. Brown, Dr. Waring, the Bishop of Texas, the Hon. and Rev. Mr. Talbot, Dr. Doyle, the Rev. Mr. Cotter, and other ecclesiastics. The two bishops elect (Dr. Burgess, nominated to the so-called bishopric of Clifton, vice Dr. Hendren, translated, and Dr. Brown, nominated to the bishopric of Shrewsbury), were then presented to Dr. Wiseman, who, after the usual preliminary ceremony, admitted them by imposition of hands to the episcopal office. High mass was

celebrated, and after the service the company sat down to a repast, Cardinal Wiseman taking the head of the table.

The Metropolitan Commissioners of Police have suspended the *Licenses of Eight Hundred Cab-Drivers*. The commissioners having ascertained that numbers of the licensed drivers were brothel-keepers and otherwise improper persons to be entrusted with the public service, on the last annual licensing day, in 1850, gave individual notice that strict inquiries would be made on the next occasion, and all who were found as above-mentioned or notorious drunkards would be deemed unfit persons, and their licenses refused. The above has been the result. These vigorous measures of the commissioners have astonished the whole fraternity, and several meetings have been held to consider the position of the body.

A very serious *riot* took place at Liverpool on the 15th, when the various Orange clubs in that town and its vicinity, resolving to celebrate the Battle of the Boyne, assembled in great force to walk in procession, to the number probably of 3000 persons. The Irish Catholic inhabitants of Liverpool determined not to suffer the procession to pass off quietly, and a dreadful disturbance was the consequence, in the course of which a policeman and an Irishman were dangerously wounded, and numbers severely hurt. One of the rioters has since died.

PERSONAL NARRATIVE.

THE Queen visited in state the two Italian theatres; Her Majesty's Theatre on the 5th, and the Royal Italian Opera on the 10th. Both houses were crowded to overflowing; and at both Her Majesty's reception was most enthusiastic.

Her Majesty, accompanied by Prince Albert, on the 9th, honoured with her presence, an entertainment given by the corporation of London in the Guildhall, in honour of the Great Exhibition. The state procession left Buckingham Palace at nine; passed through Pall Mall, up the Strand, and through the City streets, in the midst of an immense crowd of spectators. The concourse was beyond all precedent: the number of country faces and foreigners was of course great, in some places they seemed preponderant; indeed the crush was unsafe for any person not very vigorous. The old ceremony of receiving the keys of the City at Temple Bar was dispensed with, at the request of her Majesty. Every window and roof was crowded; the collateral streets had stands of benches reeeling upwards to a great height; the churchyards in the Strand, and St. Paul's churchyard, were similarly fitted; and in one church the windows themselves were densely occupied by the curious parishioners. Several streets were brilliantly illuminated. On her Majesty's arrival at Guildhall she was received by the Lord Mayor and his lady. The Queen repaired to her retiring-rooms, but shortly re-appeared, and occupied the throne. There was a little dancing in the confined space before the throne, after which the Queen was conducted to supper. The tables were laid out in a splendid manner, and among the wines brought from the civic depositories was sherry a hundred and five years old, which had been bottled for the Emperor Napoleon. Supper being over, the Queen retired, amidst marks of enthusiasm even greater than those displayed on her coming. Shortly before one o'clock the trumpets sounded a royal flourish at the gates of Guildhall; and, through a dense mass of people cheering incessantly, her Majesty returned to Buckingham Palace. The Lord Mayor subsequently received a communication from Lord John Russell, expressing the Queen's approval of the arrangements, and announcing that her Majesty had conferred on him the dignity of a baronet.

The Queen and Prince Albert, with all the royal family, left London for Osborne on the 18th.

The Earl of Mulgrave has been appointed Comptroller of the Household, in the room of the late Mr. Sebright Lascelles.

The Earl of Sefton is appointed Lord-Lieutenant o

the county of Lancaster, as successor to the late Earl of Derby.

The undermentioned sums have been awarded to the following General Officers as rewards for distinguished services—Lieutenant-General Lloyd, 200*l.* per annum; Lieutenant-General C. Gordon, 200*l.*; Major-General Aylmer, 200*l.*; Major-General Sir De Lacy Evans, 100*l.*; Major-General Fleming, 100*l.*; Major-General Mac-lachlan, 100*l.*

The Marchioness of Ely has been appointed one of the Ladies of the Bedchamber in Ordinary to the Queen, in the room of Lady Portman, resigned.

Mr. C. Romilly has been appointed Clerk of the Crown in Chancery, in the room of the present Earl of Cottenham, resigned.

Miss Augusta Talbot was married to Lord Edward Howard, on the 22nd, at the Roman Catholic chapel in Warwick Street. The Lord Chancellor, as the bride's legal guardian, gave her away.

Mr. Silk Buckingham has at length succeeded in his long contest with the East India Company for indemnification for his losses as an oriental journalist. The bill before Parliament for restitution has been withdrawn, the Court of Directors and the Government having agreed to settle upon him a pension of 400*l.* per annum.

The Queen has conferred a pension of 100*l.* a year on Mrs. Jameson, the well-known author of several literary works of merit.

Mr. William Hurrell of Felstead, farmer, and Mary his wife, had their uninterrupted conjugal felicity at once attested and rewarded by receiving the *Dunmow Flitch of Bacon*, at Lord Maynard's park, near that place, on the 16th. About five thousand persons were present, of whom the greatest number came to the park

in gaily decorated vans, gigs, carriages, and vehicles of all descriptions.

Obituary of Notable Persons.

ADMIRAL THE HON. SIR JOHN TALBOT, G.C.B., died on the 7th inst., in his 83rd year.

DR. MOIR, the well-known "Delta" of "Blackwood's Magazine," died at Dumfries on the 6th inst.

COLONEL STOEY, late of the 3rd Dragoon guards, died at Brompton on the 3rd, aged 66.

GENERAL WOOD, Lieutenant at the Tower, died on the 3rd, at an advanced age.

MR. T. S. BELL, late a student in the Government School of Design, who was sent out in November last, by the trustees of the British Museum, to act as draughtsman under the direction of Mr. A. H. Layard, in carrying on his excavations amongst the ruins of Nineveh, was unfortunately drowned on the 13th of May last, whilst bathing in the river Gomai, near Mossul.

THE BARON DUDEVANT, husband of the famous romance-writer George Sand, has just died at a boarding-house in one of the small streets of the twelfth arrondissement of Paris.

GENERAL SIR ROGER SHEAFFE, BART., Colonel of the 36th regiment, died at Edinburgh on the 17th, at the age of 90. He had served in the army seventy-three years.

M. DAGUERRE, the inventor of the daguerreotype, died suddenly on the 11th, at Petit-Brie-sur-Marne, in the 63rd year of his age.

DR. LINGARD, the celebrated Roman Catholic historian of England, died at Hornby, in Lancashire, on the 17th inst., in the 82nd year of his age.

LOUISA, VISCONTRESS BERESFORD, died on the 21st inst., at Bedgebury Park, Kent. She was a daughter of Lord Stuart de Decies, and was married to Lord Beresford in 1832, at which time she was the widow of the late Thomas Hope, the celebrated author of "Anastasius, and to her that charming work was dedicated.

MARSHAL SEBASTIANI died at Paris on the 20th, in the 86th year of his age.

COLONIES AND DEPENDENCIES.

THE subject which still takes the place of every other in this department (including, as it does, almost every "vexed" question between our Colonial fellow subjects and the Home Government) is that of the Cape. It presents the double and disastrous aspect of an actual war outside the frontier hardly more open and desperate than the war of words and principles which rages within. They are not connected in any way, yet each gives the other a darker aspect. What we may call the political war has become more intense since Lord Grey announced his intention of removing the seat of Government from Cape Town to Graham's Town; yet of the propriety of this change there does not seem to be a doubt, if the impossibility be admitted of at this moment conceding those institutions of self-government, and a parliamentary representation, which have been formally promised, and are become simply a question of so many months more or less. On the other hand the prospect of the servile war, the actual conflict with the Kaffirs, manifestly does not improve. The theatre of contest is extending, and it is at length becoming a serious question whether or not the Boer and Hottentot population may not ultimately be dragged into it. This question, as well as the other, time must solve; and it is much to be regretted that the temper in which parties appear to be engaged, on both sides, is such as to offer small chance of help to anything like a speedy solution.

The Overland Mail has brought little intelligence from *India and China*. The Governor-General and suite, the Commander-in-Chief and staff, and the Lieutenant-Governor of the North-Western provinces, were all at Simla. The news from the north-west frontier is of a more pacific character than it has been lately. The hillmen are all quiet; no apprehensions of any immediate outbreak are entertained; and all our own troops have been withdrawn from the advanced posts to which they had been moved in expectation of an outbreak. At Lahore itself, the military hospitals are fast filling with English soldiers labouring under fever.

The accounts from China state that the insurgents in the Kwangsi provinces were still in force, and preparations were actively carried on at Canton against them. At Hong-Kong there was nothing stirring. There was an improvement in the health of the troops in garrison. During May there had been only three deaths in both European and native regiments. This contrasts favourably with the sanitary report for the month of May last year, when fifteen deaths were recorded.

There is intelligence from *Canada* to the 1st instant. The resignation of two members of the government,

Mr. Lafontaine and Mr. Baldwin, had produced great excitement. Lord Elgin had been present at a dinner given in Toronto to promote British American railway enterprise. In his address to the company, he expressed his conviction that "the time had at length arrived when a vigorous effort should be made to secure for that great province the benefits of an extensive and efficient railway communication." On the 24th of June, the first locomotive was launched on the Pacific Railway, in Navy Bay.

The accounts from the *Cape of Good Hope* are to the 31st of May. No remarkable military result had been obtained, the governor being unable to undertake any great military operation for want of troops. Reinforcements from England, however, were beginning to arrive, and were finding their way, in small numbers, and with difficulty, to King William's Town in Caffraria, Sir Harry Smith's head-quarters, and to Graham's Town, on their way to General Somerset. More troops from England were daily expected. In the meantime, the hostile spirit was spreading among the native tribes, and the Governor's position was becoming more and more difficult.

NARRATIVE OF FOREIGN EVENTS.

EVERY other topic of continental interest has been absorbed by the great debate in Paris on the revision of the French Constitution. That question means of course, in other words, whether or not Louis Napoleon shall be made re-eligible to the Presidency; and it has been decided against the Prince. But the mere number of votes recorded appears to be of infinitely less importance than the names of the men who have taken this opportunity of declaring their distrust and dislike of the present President of France. Not because they object to any disturbance of the new republican regime (which, in such true republicans as Cavaignac, Lamartine, and others, is an intelligible and admirable motive for the course they have taken) did Changarnier, Lamoriciere, and Bedeau, vote against any further change. Not because he desires a republic did M. Thiers vote for the maintenance of the present constitution. Not for any similar reason do we find such names as the Lafayettes and Lasteyries, M. de Laborde, M. de Remusat, M. Piscatory, M. Baze, M. de Mornay, and M. de Larochejaquelin, ranged in this division among the supporters of things as they are. But all these men have simply taken the occasion to proclaim to Europe that they do not sympathise with the ill-concealed objects and aims of M. Louis Napoleon's ambition. Still he would be a sanguine person that inferred from all this that the present President must go;—that, unable to retain power in the difficult character of a great man, he will be content to quit it in the easier character of an honest man. At present, even with this debate still ringing in the ears of France, no such reasonable supposition appears to be entertained. But it may be confessed that the chances appear to be less than were formerly counted upon for a successful issue to any Quixotic enterprise in search of an empire. The most resolute as well as the most able men in France have now too decidedly and strongly declared against it.

In France the Revision of the Constitution continues the paramount subject of interest. The Report of the Committee on that question was read to the Assembly on the 8th, by its author, M. de Tocqueville; a long and masterly document, which, after examining the existing defects of the constitution, concluded by recommending its "revision in totality." At the same time, the sub-committee appointed to authenticate the petitions on the subject, made their report, from which it appeared that the petitions presented up to the 15th of July had been signed by 1,123,625 persons, thus classified; for the revision, 741,011; for the revision and prolongation of powers, 370,511; for the prolongation of powers, 12,103.

The debate in the assembly began on the 14th, and closed on the 19th. The speakers were the leading members of all the various parties; Dupin, Falloux, Cavaignac, Berryer, Victor Hugo, Baroche, Dufaure, and Odilon Barrot; and the most extreme opinions were advanced, from legitimate monarchy to red republicanism. The result of the division was, that out of 724 members, 446 voted for revision, and 278 against it. This majority, being short of the requisite three-fourths of the whole votes, the motion for the revision of the constitution was lost.

This division, adverse to the views of the government, was followed on the 21st by another, directly hostile to ministers. M. de Melun presented a report on the petitions for revision, complaining that undue official influence had been used in getting them up; and a vote of censure was immediately moved, and carried by 333 to 320. On this the ministers resigned, but the President refused to accept their resignations.

The affairs of Germany are in a state of stagnation. The only point of political interest is the progress of the scheme for annexing the non-German provinces of Austria to the Germanic Federation. England and France presented notes protesting against the admittance of the collective states of Austria. The diet dealt with the matter directly, and resolved unanimously on the 17th, that no foreign interference should be allowed in a purely German question.

An imperial ordinance upon the press has been published in Vienna. By the first section, power of suspension is given to the Stadtholder to suspend, for two months, any periodical publication which, after two warnings, shall "take a hostile direction to the throne, the unity and integrity of the empire, religion, morality, or the maintenance of the public peace." "Suspension for a longer period, or total prohibition, can only be decreed by the council of ministers." But with respect to foreign works "of all kinds," they can be "prohibited in the whole extent of the empire by the minister of the Home Department."

The mail which left Lisbon on the 19th instant brings news of military disturbances at various points. It is said that confidence in the stability of the government is at an end. The Miguelites had assembled as a party in what may be called a public meeting, to deliberate upon the course they should pursue in the coming elections.

The latest accounts from Italy state that the Pope is in retirement at Castel Gandolfo, guarded by French dragoons. Ferdinand of Naples has visited his Holiness at the Castle, and General Gémeau was also in attendance. It was supposed that French affairs, and the probabilities of democratic republican success in the coming revision troubles, were the themes of discussion.

A letter from Naples of the 3rd inst. mentions that forty-six persons have now been arrested on account of the part they took in the affair of the 15th of May, 1848. Among these persons are Archdeacon Cagnozzi, aged ninety-seven; the ex-Minister Pietro Leopardi, who was at Turin on that day; Vicenzo Tavazzi, aged eighty-six; and Giuseppe Solidati, aged eighty-three.

The accounts from New York are to the 16 inst. The political intelligence is unimportant. Considerable interest had been excited in New York by a requisition from Sir H. Bulwer, the British minister to the United government, for the extradition of a deserter, named Welsh, from the British army in New Brunswick. The accused was charged with stealing sundry arms and equipments, in order to make his offence indictable under the conditions of the treaty. He is a man of some intelligence, and conducted his own cause at the primary examination with a good deal of shrewdness. The decision was for the release of the prisoner, who was received on leaving the court with hearty cheers from a crowd of Irishmen. He has entered the regular army of the United States.

The Canary Islands are undergoing a dreadful visitation of the cholera. It made its appearance in Grand Canary at the end of May, and rapidly gained ground through the early part of June; the deaths on the 10th, 11th, and 12th, reaching to upwards of 100 daily. On the 8th the principal inhabitants began to escape; on the 9th the panic was general; and by the 10th the British Vice-Consul estimates that there were not more than 4000 left out of a population of 16,000. The dead lay about unburied. The living who had any strength left were hunted by the soldiers to help in burying the dead. This continued until the 16th, when the severity of the disease abated; it became gradually less up to the 23rd and 24th, at which point the accounts cease. It is estimated that about 1000 died out of the 4000 who remained in the town. The cholera is supposed to have originated in some bedding landed from a ship which arrived from Havannah. The people were

wholly unprepared for it, either in their habits or education: they saw nothing but death, and only thought of flight, without making the slightest effort to face or endeavour to avoid it by proper diet and

ventilation. The epidemic did not confine itself to Grand Canary, but followed the fugitives into the country, and made dreadful havoc in the small towns of Felde and Arucas.

NARRATIVE OF LITERATURE AND ART.

THE literary services and memory of Dr. Lingard seem particularly to claim respectful mention at a time when the intellectual claims of other distinguished Roman Catholic divines have been clouded by arrogant worldly pretensions in which the deceased historian neither shared nor sympathised. He refused, on more than one occasion, the highest distinction which his church could have conferred upon him, in order that he might uninterruptedly and peaceably conclude a work which will endear his name to future generations of English Catholics far more than the red hat or purple stockings would have irradiated his memory. Having on a former occasion stated in these pages what we conceive to be the defects of his history, this may be the fitting time to record briefly what we hold to be its merits. It is no small triumph, in our judgment, to have not only produced a work which his fellow Catholics are content to accept as an authority and guide, but at the same time to have produced an examination into the original sources and authorities of English historical narrative, so ingenious, learned, and laborious, that no similar investigation has since been made without continual reference to his pages. Dr. Lingard has rendered his volumes indispensable to every candid or honest enquirer. We could often desire a warmer, a more interested, a more sympathising companion in historic study; we must confess that we always wish for a more candid describer of religious differences, notwithstanding the very impressive and singular show of candour he assumes; but a more pains-taking collector of facts, a more careful examiner of authorities, and a fairer mediator in political animosities, we may never hope to meet with. There can be no danger in predicting, that, for these qualities, Lingard's History of England will keep an enduring place in English libraries; though, for vivid pictures of English historic life, or animating views of the struggle for English freedom, the student will have to turn to a less cold and unimpassioned page.

There has rarely been a month at this period of the season in which fewer books of mark or pretension have appeared than during the month just passed. Publications of a miscellaneous kind, and not without interest, have nevertheless been numerous enough.

Mr. Finlay's *History of Mediæval Greece*, though in itself an independent work, connects itself with his former volume on the history of Greece under the Romans, as the sequel of that picture of Greek decline and fall. The present volume comprises something more than two centuries, from the opening of the thirteenth to the middle of the fifteenth, beginning with the conquest by the Crusaders, and ending with that by the Turks, tracing the decline down through the empire of Trebizond, and working out with great care the much disputed question of races. Mr. Finlay decides against the claim of the modern Greek to rank as of pure Hellenic blood. An English translation of the first volume of Lamartine's *History of the Restoration and Monarchy in France* has appeared simultaneously with the original. It carries the subject down to the abdication at Fontainebleau, and closes with an elaborate disquisition on the manners and character of Napoleon. The former it ranks higher, the latter perhaps lower, than any previous historian. The book will chiefly excite attention, indeed, by the severity of moral analysis, which it applies to the deeds and aims of the great soldier and emperor. Professor Creasy's *Fifteen Decisive Battles of the World* is a book successfully executed on a very ingenious plan. It is a series of the battles of which, in the author's judgment, any other result than that which attended them would have altered the whole course of subsequent history, plainly and forcibly described, and with such explanations and dates interposed as may serve to bring within one connected view the succession and inter-dependence of events between Marathon and Waterloo. The only other book of history which remains to be mentioned, *The English in America*, by the author of *Sam Slick*, belongs rather to the opposite extreme of outrageous fiction. The author's prejudices are too violent and avowed to permit him to do any kind of justice to one of the noblest incidents in modern history—the settlement and colonisation of America by the pilgrim fathers of England.

Books of a more miscellaneous kind have been numerous, but not very important. Dr. Latham has published a small volume on the *Ethnology of British Colonies and Dependencies*, and Mr. Prinsep has given us a still smaller book on the social and political condition of *Tibet, Tartary, and Mongolia*, and on the character of the *Booth religion* as existing there, in which he points out many striking resemblances to the

Christian system. To the ingenious author of *How to make Home Unhealthy*, we owe a not less clever and instructive *Defence of Ignorance*; and a benevolent lady has collected in a volume all the accessible evidence on *Reformatory Schools for the Children of the Perishing and Dangerous Classes and for Juvenile Offenders*, of which the object is to demonstrate the inefficacy of the existing institutions, and to recommend the establishment of a national system of special reformatory schools. Dr. Bushnan has undertaken to rebuke some recent religious heresies, in a small book entitled *Miss Martineau and her Master*; Mr. Scully, a distinguished Irish lawyer and landowner, has contributed some new and valuable lights to the illustration of the much vexed *Irish Land Question*; Mr. Drummond Wolff has made an agreeable volume out of a few lightly-written but well-observed sketches of Spanish life in Madrid and its suburbs, to which he gives the title of *Madridlenia*; and Archbishop Whately has re-edited the valuable little *Selection of English Synonyms*, which was published some years ago with his authority. To this list may be added a new volume of *Notes and Queries*, and the first completed volume of Mr. Mayhew's *London Labour and the London Poor*, which is dedicated to Mr. Jerrold.

The month's summary of publications, however, would be very incomplete without mention of a pamphlet, small in size, but weighty in contents, containing *Two Letters to Lord Aberdeen*, written by Mr. Gladstone. The object of these letters is to describe the horrible and disgusting administration of the present government of Naples. Mr. Gladstone relates what he saw; and the narration would hardly be credible from a person of less distinguished character and known veracity. The King of Naples has more than thirty thousand of the people confined in loathsome prisons on political charges, and, among them, subjected to cruelty and ignominy from which the imagination recoils, an absolute majority of the Deputies who swore to the Constitution at the same time with himself, and whose only crime is the having kept that oath which he has since so deliberately violated. All law is suspended, with all personal liberty; and the most revolting doctrines are taught by the public authorities, under direct sanction of the state, releasing all the moral sanctions, justifying perjury, and calling in the aid of religion for dissemination of doctrines the most wicked and abominable. These letters cannot fail to produce a deep impression, and they may possibly contribute to results which the writer has not chosen to contemplate.

COMMERCIAL RECORD.

BANKRUPTS.

From the Gazette of July 1.—O. SPARROW, High Street, Aldgate, grocer.—F. W. SAUNDERS, Thame, harness-maker.—L. THOMAS, Bristol, grocer.—J. HERVEY, Halifax, stock-broker.

July 4th.—R. GRAY, Edward-street, Hampstead-road, piano-forte-maker.—J. ELLIS, Aldgate, tailor.—COLLINS and G. T. ROSE, Bewdley, carpet-manufacturers.—T. ROSS, Manchester, furniture-dealer.

July 5th.—J. HALL, Brighton, hotel-keeper.—B. TEDD, Coventry, cotton-dresser.—R. CROOK, Mangotsfield, Gloucestershire, butcher.—W. KENDALL and J. STANDISH, Leeds, grocers.—J. HOWELL, Liverpool, bookseller.—J. ALLMAND, Wrexham, haberdasher.—J. MONKMAN, Oldham, cotton-spinner.—J. CHEW, Manchester, stuff-manufacturer.

July 11.—T. E. SOUTHER, Fleet-street, advertising-agent.—W. TAYLOR and J. WYLD, Wood-street, flock-manufacturers.—W. E. JOHNSON, Little Abington Street, coal-merchant.—J. MURRAY, Gresham Street, warehouseman.—W. WILLIAMS, Ashford, Kent, contractor.—T. BARBER, Cambridge, school-master.—E. THOMPSON, Reading, brush-maker.—P. RUFFORD and Co., Stourbridge, bankers.—P. and F. RUFFORD, Brocas-grove, bankers.—S. STREET, Devizes, shoemaker.—W. AYRES, junior, Cardiff, grocer.—F. CLARKE, Hawes, Yorkshire, wine-merchant.—R. BRUMWELL, Halifax, draper.—J. and T. HOYLE, Salford, cotton-manufacturers.—J. POWNELL and J. YOUL, Manchester, brewers.

July 15.—W. ATLEY, Hanwell, market-gardener.—H. G. HARRISON, King's-road, Hoxton Old Town, wine-merchant.—R. D. MERCHER, Church Passage, Bishopsgate Street Without, silk-merchant.—T. WARE, Stoke Prior, Worcestershire, coal-merchant.—J. TEECE and T. PRATE, Oswestry, drapers.—B. BAYLIS, Gloucestershire, Woolstapler.—R. BUDGEN, Llanbilleth, Monmouthshire, iron-founder.—E. WILLIAMS, Exeter, wine-merchant.—R. WILLING, Ashburton, miller.—J. BIBBY, Llanbaird-yn-Mochnant, Denbighshire, draper.—I. WAKEFIELD, Liverpool, coal-dealer.—R. HILTON and W. KAY, Heywood, Lancashire, cotton-spinners.—S. and J. JOULE, Macclesfield, ribband-manufacturers.

July 18th.—R. ACRES, jun., Braughing, Hertfordshire, inn-keeper.—R. MATTY, Paul's Wharf, paper-manufacturer.—H. C. FROST, Russell-square, boarding-house-keeper.—K. SUMMERS, Bath Street, City Road, pawnbroker.—W. BRUNSKILL, Paternoster Row, silk-manufacturer.—W. BUCHANAN, Gerard Street, picture-dealer.—H. BARRETT, Gloucester, miller.—J. WELCH, Nantwich, coach-builder.—G. L. OWENS, Manchester, woollen-draper.

July 22nd.—S. C. BEASTALL and W. MATHER, High Street, Kensington, linendrapers.—S. DIXON, Leeds, draper.—A. HEILBRON and J. HARRISON, Great St. Helen's, dysralters.—J. MITCHELL, Camden Street, Camden Town, carpenter.—Z. WARREN, Ardleigh, miller.—G. E. DEELEY, Brunswick Street, Dover Road, iron-founder.—G. KEMPSON, Clifton, Bedfordshire, pork-butcher.—J. ROYCE, Nottingham, currier.—T. PAINTAS, Okehampton, builder.—V. BUEGE, Taunton, saddler.—W. and F. PASHLEY, Sheffield, table-knife-manufacturers.—W. MOONEY and T. WILSON, Liverpool, corn-merchants.—G. J. J. GRANT, Liverpool, tobacco-broker.—T. BROWN, Sunderland, shipowner.

July 25th.—H. J. ELLIS, Rotherhithe Wall, ironmonger.—T. HAMMOND, Conduit Street, Westbourne Terrace, boot-maker.—J. ALLANSON, Kirby Moorside, draper.—W. B. RICHARDS, West-bromwich, grocer.—R. BEW, Selby, Yorkshire, grocer.—T. IRLAM and V. T. WANOBTROCHT, Liverpool, brokers.—J. N. BATESON, Rochdale, cotton-spinner.

BANKRUPTCIES ANNULLED.

July 5th.—R. TREDENNICK, Threadneedle Street, mining agent.—W. GEE, Murray Street, Hoxton, tuscan hat manufacturer.

July 25th.—W. BUDDLE, Irongate Wharf, Paddington, timber-merchant.

MONEY MARKET.

There is literally nothing to report in either stock or share markets during the past month. In both the English and foreign "houses" an even flow of business has been done, with very little variation in prices.

STOCKS.	Highest.	Lowest.	Latest.
Three per Cent. Consols . . .	97½	96½	96½
Three per Cent. Reduced . . .	97½	97½	97½
Three and a quarter per Cents. .	99½	98½	99
Long Annuities, Jan. 1860 . . .	7½	7½	7½
Bank Stock	216½	213½	216½
India Stock	264	261½	264
Exchequer Bills	54s. prm.	45s. prm.	51s. prm.
India Bonds £100	63s. prm.	58s. prm.	61s. prm.

FOREIGN FUNDS—LATEST PRICES.

Brazilian 5 per cents, 90½	Peruvian 5 per cent, 87½
Buenos Ayres 6 per cent., 56	Portuguese 4 per cent., 34½
Danish 5 per cent., 104½	Russian 4½ per cent., 101
Dutch 4 p. c. certificates, 98½	Spanish Passive Bonds, 6
Mexican Bonds, 30½	Do. active, 21½

PAID.	RAILWAYS.	Highest.	Lowest.	Latest.
100	Brighton and South Coast.	85	83½	94½
all	Blackwall	7	6½	6½
50	Caledonian	10½	9½	10½
20	Eastern Counties	6½	5½	6½
50	Edinburgh and Glasgow . .	29½	23	25½
all	Great Northern	17½	16½	17
100	Great Western	84	83	84½
50	Illul and Selby	103½	103	103
100	Lancashire and Yorkshire	51	46½	49
100	London & North Western	123½	122	123½
100	Midland	38½	44½	40½
25	North British	6½	6½	6½
30	South Eastern and Dover.	22½	22	22½
100	South Western	84½	82½	84½
25	York, Newc., and Berwick	19½	15	18½
50	York and North Midland	18½	17	18½

FOREIGN RAILWAYS—LATEST PRICES.

Boulogne and Amiens, 10½	Paris and Rouen, 25½
East Indian, 2½ pm	Paris and Strasbourg, 5½ dis
Namur and Liege, 6½	Rouen and Havre, 9½
Northern of France, 14½	Tours and Nantes, 9 dis

CORN MARKET—LONDON WEEKLY AVERAGES.

Wheat, per qr., 44s. 6d.; Barley, 25s.; Oats, 22s. 10d.; Rye, 28s. 2d.; Beans, 29s. 2d.; Peas, 28s. 11d.; Flour (town made), delivered, 37s. to 40s.; American barrel of 196 lbs., 20s. to 24s.

PROVISIONS—LATEST WHOLESALE PRICES.

Bacon, per cwt., Irish, 52s. to 56s.	Hams, per cwt.—York or Cumberland, 60s. to 66s.; Irish 68s.; Westphalia, 49s. to 53s.
Beef, per 8 lbs., mid. to prime, 2s. 2d. to 2s. 4d.	Mutton, per 8 lbs., mid. to prime, 2s. 8d. to 4s.
Butter, per cwt.—Cork, 3rd and 4th, 70s. Waterford, 1st, 66s. to 72s.; Dutch Friesland, 73s. to 74s.; Limerick, 62s. to 67s.	Potatoes, per ton.—Kent and Essex Shaws, 60s. to 72s.; Kent and Essex Middling, 55s. to 70s.; Chats, 31s. to 36s.
Cheese, per cwt., Cheshire, 42s. to 70s.; Derby, pln., 45s. to 60s.	Pork, 8 lbs., 2s. 8d. to 4s.
Eggs, per 120, French, 4s. 9d. to 5s. 6d.	Veal, per 8 lbs., 2s. 4d. to 3s. 8d.

GROCERY—LATEST WHOLESALE PRICES.

Cocoa, per cwt. Ord. to good red Trinidad, 39s. to 42s.; Brazil, 24s. to 26s.	India, good grocery, 35s. to 42s.; Mauritius, brown, 28s. to 37s.; Brazil, do. 16s. to 42s.
Coffee, per cwt.—Good ord., native Ceylon, 38s. to 70s.; Sumatra, 34s. to 37s.; Java, 37s. to 51s.	Tea, per lb. (duty 2s. 1d. and 5 per cent.)—Ord. to Good Congou, 10d. to 1s. 6d. Soucheong, common to fine, 11½d. to 3s.; ord. to fine Hyson, 1s. 3d. to 3s. 6d.; Imperial, 11d. to 2s. 6d.
Rice, per cwt.—Carolina 15s. to 19s.; Madras, 7s. to 9s.; Patna, cleaned, 11s. to 17s.	
Sugar, per cwt.—Bengal 26s. to 41s. 6d.; British West	

Candles, per 12 lbs. 4s. 6d. to 5s. 6d. | Coals, per ton, 14s. 9d.

OILS.

Pale Seal, per 252 gals., 32l. 10s.	Palm, per ton, 26l. 15s. to 27l.
Sperm, 55l. to 56l.	Olive, Gallipoli, 38l. 10s. to 39l.
Cod, 36l. to 37l.	Linseed, 33l. to 33l. 6s

THE HOUSEHOLD NARRATIVE OF CURRENT EVENTS.

1851.]

FROM THE 29TH JULY TO THE 28TH AUGUST.

[PRICE 2d.]

THE THREE KINGDOMS.

A SESSION which closes with a financial year exhibiting a surplus of three millions, and on the eve of a harvest of unexampled abundance, is in some degree independent of criticism. But on other grounds also the past session may claim exemption from ordinary critical tests. Not for what has been done in it, but for a large legacy of unavoidable work which it has left to its successor, the parliament of 1851 may claim to be memorable. To its discussions will be largely due the measure of Reform now certainly impending over the English Church. Amendment of the Law has begun in real earnest. Even Chancery reform has advanced a step. There is little probability of further successful resistance to that measure for a General Registration which, for more than twenty years, has baffled every statesman who took it in hand. The laws affecting Newspapers are, at length, to undergo revision. The entire subject of Parochial Assessment is to be taken in hand by the home minister. It is no longer possible that even the Income-Tax can be permanently passed without an endeavour to give it a more equitable operation. The first minister of the crown has declared against a Property Qualification for members of parliament; several leading members of the government (including both the law officers of the crown) have voted in a majority for the Ballot; and the future existence of a great party is now staked on a new Parliamentary Reform Bill.

Here is much promise to set against such performance as we find; and though, in amount, that performance has been singularly small, in quality and significance it has not been so. Never was legislative act apparently so unequal to the occasion, never act of any kind attended by so many sorry vicissitudes and seeming blunders, as the Ecclesiastical Titles Bill. Early in the discussion its friends withdrew its most stringent clause, and on the very eve of its enactment it received from opponents its most operative provisions. It has overthrown a ministry; it has paralysed the power of two parties in the state whom the Queen had summoned to her service; and it has had the effect of re-constructing more firmly the ministry which it overthrew. It was discussed as though its enactment must crush on the instant the free agency of all whom it affected, and it had not been enacted for twenty-four hours when it was openly defied and disobeyed. All this shadow to so little apparent substance would seem to show that the substance is not really quite so small as it appears. In short, it will probably be found that in principle the act is one of the most important passed in modern days. It is confessedly the commencement of a struggle which will have to be carried out to the end. It is an expression of resolute resistance to that Power in full agreement and concurrence with which all the tyrannies of the continent rest their present hope of sustinment. Inadequate as it is, thwarted as it is likely to be, and fraught with all mean and pitiful consequences in its direct legal operation, its mere enactment has yet carried comfort and encouragement wherever foreign peoples are suffering in conscience or struggling for civil rights. But yet, more than this. The act has brought in issue, in our own country and elsewhere, the compatibility of any kind of claim to ecclesiastical domination with the rights of political equality; and, to the questions it has raised there can be no hope of satisfactory settlement till it becomes finally determined to what extent the organisation and development of what is called religious freedom can, with safety to political freedom, be permitted to continue. It is idle to suppose that the bill affects merely the Roman Catholic. Many who supported it for fanatical reasons will in this respect, sooner or later, undergo bitter disappointment. It is just as idle to call it the offspring of a particular statesman, or to threaten any party in the state with its responsibilities. Such as it is the Whigs designed it, it was made more efficient by the Tories and Irishmen, but the English People passed it. Nor, when its more vital consequences shall hereafter have begun to show themselves, will it be remembered without a certain curious interest that such a bill should have been passed in a session that had witnessed nine defeats in the House of Commons of the ministry by whom it was introduced.

As little are the ministry to be held directly responsible for the two principal acts of law reform by which the session has been distinguished. Still, though the act for the Amendment of the Law of Evidence, and that for the Improvement of Criminal Administration, were respectively introduced by Lords Brougham and Campbell, both were heartily supported by government, and the attorney-general took special charge of the first in its passage through the lower house. Its scope and probable consequences have already been described in this Narrative; and there can be no doubt but that the degree of effect thus given to the principle for which Bentham, and the other leaders of law reform, have had to struggle for the most part of a century, will bring with it other simplifications of legal practice as an almost immediate result. The admission of both parties to a suit as witnesses on their own behalf, in which is necessarily involved their inability to resist giving evidence also on behalf of their opponents, will work its rational way into every part of our legal procedure; and will prove in all probability the most efficient protection that has ever yet been devised, against dishonest plaints on the one hand and fraudulent defences on the other. It is to be regretted, we think, that the operation of so excellent a measure should have been limited in the case of husbands and wives. Here a difference arose between the upper and the lower house, both agreeing that it would be best to exclude the evidence of wives for or against their husbands in criminal cases, but the Commons holding that the same exclusion should not exist in civil cases, which, nevertheless, the Lords declined to agree to. Lord Campbell's bill has been less popularly canvassed than Lord Brougham's, but it contains clauses of remarkable value; and, above all, its

principal provision, by which the judge is enabled of himself to amend any indictment, when it may be found at the trial to contain an error not material to the merits of the case, or by correction of which the accused cannot be prejudiced in his just means of defence, removes one of those defects by which, more than by any other, our criminal law has been made an abomination and scandal to justice. The felon has had no such constant friend, society no such steady opponent, as that flagrant worship of technicalities against which Lord Campbell has here dealt a blow, under which other absurdities, springing from the same source and defensible only on the same pitiful grounds, must ultimately and as certainly stagger and fall. In other amendments of this admirable bill the same tardy but invaluable tribute is offered, from what has too long been supposed to be the unalterable genius of English law, to the better genius of universal reason and common sense. It is provided, for example, that in future indictments for murder or manslaughter, there need not be any specification of the mode or means by which the act was done; that where the prosecution is for forgery, or fraud, the intent to defraud any persons in particular need no longer be held a necessary part of the proof; that where the trial is for misdemeanour, and the offence turns out to be a felony, the offender shall not therefore escape; that where the charge is felony, and the proof fails of the original charge but establishes the attempt to commit it, the prisoner shall be subject to exactly the same consequences as if the indictment had been originally and only for the attempt to commit; that all formal objections to the indictment must be taken before the jury is sworn; and, finally, that a prisoner shall not hereafter be called upon to plead guilty or not guilty, but shall be simply asked whether he wishes to plead guilty, or any other plea, "or to be tried." In short, there is not a clause in this bill which would not, five-and-twenty years ago, have been entitled to a place in Sydney Smith's noodle oration, as a direct assault upon the British constitution; and, in a letter to Lord Denman, in which, with justifiable pride, Lord Brougham recounts his share, together with that of his friends, in the law amendments of the session, he not obscurely hints that certain distinguished noodles had plagued Lord Campbell not a little for his resolute determination to get the bill passed. "Lord Campbell," he says earnestly, "deserves the thanks of the profession, and of the community, for his manful perseverance; for there cannot be doubt that he had to struggle against no little weight of prejudice, *in not the most obscure quarters of our legal body.*"

To these successes in Law Reform some failures have to be added. But first the Chancery Bill, constituting a more efficient staff of judges, providing for the more speedy disposal of suits, and erecting a more satisfactory court of appeal, deserves a word of praise. The bill introduced by Mr. Baines for the Protection of Apprentices and Servants, deserves also a hearty mention for its simple and humane provisions. But the promised Registry measure has failed; and the bill for further Extension of the County Courts, together with that for the Amendment of the Patent Laws, were at the last moment thrown out by the Lords. In neither case, however, is the upper house to be held blameable for the failure, seeing that both bills were sent up with changes of the greatest moment, at a time when the alternative was to pass them without discussion, or not to pass them at all. For the rest of the performances or failures of the session, a very few words may suffice. Light is no longer subject to taxation, and a fair House Duty has taken the place of the iniquitous Window Tax. The Water doctors have undergone a disastrous failure, but the Smithfield abomination is knocked on the head. The Board of Health has made a backward rather than a forward movement, but the Board of Woods and Forests has been obliged to enter into promises for future better behaviour, and for a more decent management of the property of the Crown. Mr. Milner Gibson has failed to popularise the management of the County Rates; Lord Wharfedale cannot induce the bishops to abolish the restrictions on the law of Marriage; the Jews are still excluded from Parliament; and the silly Vice-Royalty of Ireland has received another reprieve. But, on the other hand, whether advanced under cover of oppressed country rate-payers, of distressed ship-owners, or starved-out millers; whether the forlorn hope has been led by Lord Naas, or Mr. Herries, or Mr. Disraeli; no matter how many of the Irish brigade have rushed to its rescue;—every Protectionist move of the session has suffered ignominious defeat. Nothing could exceed the spirits with which the campaign was opened; nothing can express the gloom in which it has closed. Gratiano's simile of the ship "hugged and embraced" at her start, and of the same ship "lean, rent, and beggared," on her return, is the type of what this year has befallen the Protectionist leaders. And who does not know "the reason why?" Who cannot read it legibly in everything around him? What registrar's return does not proclaim it? What poor-law union does not confirm it? Where is there a labourer's cottage, in which better clothes and more abundant food do not write it on the walls, in language which even Mr. George Frederick Young will have to acquire a knowledge of at last, and *confess* "the reason why." Not wholly unprofitable, then, has been the session of 1851.

Other matters, meanwhile, proceed in their customary course. Of little avail is any general prosperity against cases of individual suffering, and there can be no amendment of the absurdities of the law so extensive as to reach or correct the absurdities of those who administer the law. This latter truth has had no lack of illustration during the past month. The summer assizes have contributed their usual share, and the police magistrates have not been idle. And first for those who are first in dignity, and in absurdity often very far from the last. To that truly British judge, Mr. Baron Platt, fell the duty of trying that most unheroic clergyman to whose sudden excess of craven terror a hearty, jovial, wealthy border farmer, a loving father and a most affectionate husband (as on the trial he was well proved to be), fell a victim in the prime of health and life a few months ago. The clergyman, frightened out of his small wits by the fate of Mr. Hollest, had after that event kept always, by way of protection, a six-barrelled loaded revolver ready to his hand; and so fortified, was sitting in his study between ten and eleven o'clock on a brilliant moonlit night in the middle of last April, when he heard a rattling at the window. Housebreakers don't generally ply their trade at so early an hour, or on a night of full moon, nor is a tap at the window commonly the proceeding they begin with; but out rushed this clergyman forthwith, with his six-barrelled loaded revolver, never inquired who was there, never gave warning of his purpose, never thought of firing upward, but fired successively three deadly volleys straight in the direction of the noise, slammed the door, rushed up to bed, and was summoned next morning to view the dead body of one of the most respected men upon the Scottish border, lying outside his study window. Of course no one could desire that more suffering should be laid on this unhappy man than should follow with the consequences of an act so incautious and rash, but to a full responsibility for such grave want of caution it was right and necessary that he should be made amenable. There is nothing to which grosser acts of cruelty may be more surely traced than to

fear; there is hardly a feeling which more requires control; most certainly there is none so likely to induce the degree of recklessness which by every construction of law must be held criminal, if laws are to protect society at all. Yet thus gingerly did Mr. Baron Platt, after reminding a "British jury" that it was "one of the first principles of British law that every man has a right to defend his dwelling," touch upon the restrictions that might possibly in particular cases limit such a right. "It has been said that in these cases some caution should be used. It is true, want of caution would, in certain circumstances, render an act criminal; but there are some cases in which you cannot apply very strictly the rule of caution. A man assailed in the dead of night, expecting robbers coming into his house, is he to sit down, as to a mathematical problem, to consider *how far* he is to be cautious in this or in that, at the time he is called on to defend himself?" Now the charge in this Cumberland case was that of the utter absence of caution, not of the presence of too little. There existed as much pretence for supposing that a clergyman should be sitting in his own house between ten and eleven at night "expecting robbers," in a small border village where no burglary or house-robbery had been heard of for more than twenty years, as for the preposterous comparison of "a man assailed in the dead of the night" to a case where the only approach to assault consisted of a tapping at the window so gentle that not a pane of glass was broken, and so noiseless that a nursery-servant lying awake in bed, in the room immediately above, heard nothing of it. These compassionate comparisons of the learned judge were nevertheless wholly confined to one branch of the case. For the unfortunate deceased, nothing of the kind was forthcoming. "The deceased," pursued Mr. Baron Platt, "is said to have been a good husband and an affectionate father. Now, this may be true; but one cannot shut one's eyes to this, that he had no business there. The mischief which he sustained was the consequence of his own act. If he had gone home, instead of going to the residence of this clergyman and disturbing the inmates, he would have avoided the unfortunate consequences which ensued. . . . If a man so conduct himself by making noises at untimely hours as to cause the inmates of a house to believe that it is going to be broken into, it is precisely the same as if a burglary was committed; and no question a man has a right to go forth and alarm persons so acting, either by shooting over their heads, or in the direction in which he fancies they are, to prevent a burglary." After this, of course, the accused was acquitted. But without stopping to remark on the absurdity of supposing that to fire loaded barrels in the direction where persons are standing may express nothing more than the intention of alarming them, might not Mr. Baron Platt very fairly be asked whether he cannot conceive it possible for a clergyman's house to be disturbed even later than eleven o'clock at night, for objects and reasons far other than those of burglary and crime? Are not men with the cure of souls as liable to be summoned at untimely hours as men with the cure of bodies? While we write we see it announced that a London rector was the other night knocked up out of a comfortable sleep at eleven o'clock to attend the death-bed of poor Spring, the boxer; and though the worthy man, out of some not unpardonable misapprehension, declined to go, other ministers disposed and zealous to practise what they preach were found, even at a yet later and more untimely hour. But let good people beware in future at what hour of the night, in town or village, they betake themselves to apothecary or to minister. The solemn dictum of a truly British judge may be alleged hereafter, to sanction the most preposterous fears, and justify the most criminal rashness based upon them.

Nor was the enunciation of a doctrine so utterly inconsistent with the safety of society, the only noticeable circumstance at this trial. An incidental point of some importance arose on which the decision of the judge appears quite as open to objection. The accused had presented himself at the inquest, before he was formally charged with having committed the act, and had volunteered to be examined as to what he knew of the circumstances. His examination was taken, and afterwards signed by himself; but, on its being offered in evidence at the trial, was peremptorily rejected by Baron Platt, on the ground of its having been taken, not compulsorily, not under cross-examination, not by any external inducement or suggestion, but, in legal phrase, "under the pressure of an oath." Yet it had been distinctly declared, not many months before, by full decision of the very court to which Mr. Baron Platt belongs, "that the practice of coroners refusing the examination on oath of parties who offer themselves for that purpose, was founded on the grossest misapprehension of duty on the part of a coroner. No one was in a state of accusation before a coroner; and he ought to take the evidence of any one, only cautioning those parties, who might hereafter turn out to be implicated, not to inculpate themselves unless they so pleased." This, surely, is the common sense of the matter; and it involves that exact principle, of the last importance to a right administration of the law, on which the changes in Lord Campbell's Act mainly proceed. Yet there is none which a section of our judges are so prone to obstruct and interfere with. The only interest they seem disposed or able to recognise is that of the accused. In an undue concern for the prisoner the public is quite lost sight of. Else why the eagerness to admit evidence favourable to him, accompanied by equal eagerness to exclude evidence unfavourable? The only rational and proper rule is that of Bentham, to receive all evidence *valcat quantum*; the whole machinery of a Court of Justice being really organised precisely to determine such questions of value. Over and over again has the point arisen, and more than once during the late circuit, as to whether, evidence in favour of a prisoner's character having been given, rebutting evidence proving general bad character should not also be received; but the decision is always in the negative. It becomes a serious question in such circumstances whether all evidence as to character had not better be excluded. Generally speaking, there is nothing so worthless, nothing so fallacious, even where the person giving it is not an egregious dupe, or a credulous fool; and the cases are rare indeed, where mere matter-of-opinion should have any weight in determining matter-of-fact. But at any rate, where it is so, and the scale of innocence or guilt is so nearly balanced that even such slight weight might not unfairly turn it, it is obvious that the opinion offered should not be merely one-sided, if truth be the object of inquiry. We repeat, however, that the interests of truth appear much less frequently than the interests of the prisoner to guide our criminal courts. A man was acquitted of poisoning two children, the other day, against the clearest evidence, and in the teeth of the summing up of the judge, on no other conceivable pretence than that of a preposterous suggestion by one of the witnesses, which every other person examined had disproved and rebutted, over and over again.

To the less grave arena of the police courts, absurdities are more congenial, and have certainly not been wanting. An experienced magistrate (Mr. Secker) has laid down the doctrine that the act of the Greenwich Railway Company selling a ticket to a person proposing to travel by their railway, necessarily implies the surrender of all control over that person's access to their platform; so that, on crowded days, for example

those of the Fair, any one with a taste for a tumult may gratify it at the smallest possible cost, by forcing his way to the platform when a particular train is full, and knocking down any number of policemen who would have him wait quietly for its successor. Another magistrate (to be sure, *this was an Alderman, Mr. Wire*) commuted to a small fine a very stern sentence of imprisonment which he had felt it his duty to pass, because "he was unwilling to allow the prisoner's sister, who was expected to arrive in town, and who was a perfect stranger in London, to meet with no protector by confining her brother." A third magistrate (Mr. Tyrwhitt) lately announced from the bench his belief that the courage and manliness of our army and navy are solely referable to the good old custom of flogging; but, in proceeding to offer himself with the marks of the cat'o'nine tails upon him as additional proof and example of the excellence of a custom from which, he tells us, he had never flinched as a boy, "knowing he had deserved it," the worthy justice somewhat heedlessly exposed his doctrine to a test which it would probably be more just than civil to apply to it. A fourth magistrate (Mr. Jardine), after severely lecturing a Welch justice of peace for scandalous misbehaviour and a gross assault, fined him forty shillings. A fifth (Mr. Beadon), after as bitterly condemning a yet worse assault of a very different kind, visited it with a punishment yet more inadequate. And a sixth (Mr. D'Eyncourt) showed how aptly he could fall into the ways of his more experienced brethren of the police bench, by taking the occasion of one of his earliest sittings after his appointment, to dismiss with a mere pecuniary fine a case of the most atrocious character (which he had just before very properly resolved to send to Newgate), "in consequence," as he remarked, "of the earnest appeal from the prosecutrix, and also in consideration of the two principal witnesses residing at such distances as Birmingham and Norfolk."

It will be observed, as an almost invariable rule with police magistrates, that the most violent severity of speech, and the most incomprehensible mildness of purpose, go curiously hand in hand. Goldsmith's gentleman in black, who abuses everybody whom he means to relieve, and denounces with an excess of sham anger what he knows he has not the real courage to resist, is the type they most commonly follow. In justice to another section of the magistracy, however, let us say that this rule is not universal. For solid, unmitigated harshness, unrelieved by the faintest glimmering of mildness of any kind, commend us to a bench of country justices, with a luckless agricultural trampler before them. It is a very few days since Sir Edward Filmer, and his brother magistrates of Kent, fined a wretched fellow ten shillings, with costs to the amount of seventeen shillings more, for the theft of two cabbages worth something less than four farthings.

NARRATIVE OF PARLIAMENT AND POLITICS.

IN THE HOUSE OF LORDS on Monday, July 28, on the consideration of the report upon the *Smithfield Market Removal Bill*, Earl GRANVILLE moved the omission of certain clauses giving the corporation of London compensation for being deprived of the tolls.—A division took place upon this subject, when the proposition of the noble earl was carried by a majority of 44; the numbers in its favour being 59, whilst those opposed to it were only 15.

On Tuesday the 29th, the *Ecclesiastical Titles Assumption Bill* was read a third time, and passed.—The Earl of ABERDEEN, however, protested against the measure; which was also opposed by Lord Stuart de Decies, Lord Nelson, the Marquis of Sligo, and Lord Gage. The Bishop of OXFORD spoke at great length in support of the bill, which he held to be necessary in order to repel the recent Papal Aggression, though he was dissatisfied with some of its provisions.—The Duke of ARGYLE defended the bill from the objections made to it by the Bishop of Oxford.—An amendment proposed by Lord MONTAGUE was withdrawn previous to the bill being passed.

On Wednesday the 30th, the report on the *Charitable Trusts Bill* was brought up, and several bills were forwarded a stage.

On Thursday the 31st, the *Stock in Trade Bill* was read a third time and passed, after some observations from the Earl of MALMSBURY, complaining of the parochial burdens being by this bill thrown entirely on real property, and a promise on the part of Earl Grey that a measure embracing the whole subject of parochial assessment was now ready, and would be brought forward at the earliest opportunity.

The Lord CHANCELLOR, in moving the second reading of the *Court of Chancery Bill*, explained its various provisions, and stated that it had the assent of Lords Lyndhurst and Brougham. He also took occasion to deny the impression which generally prevailed, that no attempt had been made to improve the administration of justice in the Courts of Chancery, and recited at some length the various orders which Lords Eldon, Lyndhurst, Brougham, and Cottenham had made as to the practice of the court.—The Earl of ABERDEEN said the extent of Lord Lyndhurst's approbation was, that it was a very small step in the right direction. He took that oppor-

tunity of calling attention to the unsatisfactory state of the arrangements respecting the hearing of Scotch appeals, which presented the anomaly of the principles of the Scottish law being administered by judges who had not made that system of jurisdiction their early study.—Lord Cranworth and the Lord Chancellor admitted the theoretical anomaly, but contended that the practice worked well.

On the second reading of the *Medical Charities (Ireland) Bill*, a discussion arose respecting the delay in carrying out the provisions of the act for stopping intramural interments in the metropolis, when the Earl of SHAFTESBURY entered into explanations to show that the cause of the delay did not exist in the Board of Health, but was rather to be attributed to the dilatory proceedings of the government.—Lord WHARNCLEFFE called attention to the question of ventilation in mines, in relation to an act for the appointment of inspectors passed last year; and on his motion some returns on the subject were ordered.

On Friday, August 1, Earl TALBOT, in moving for certain returns relating to the *Admiralty Regulations for the Promotion of Officers in the Navy*, censured the system recently adopted for compelling the retirement of naval officers.—Earl GREY, in agreeing to the returns, defended the Admiralty regulations, and censured the noble earl for "the unconstitutional practice" of canvassing appointments made by the crown.

The royal assent was given to a number of bills, among which was the *Ecclesiastical Titles Bill*.

On Monday, August 4, Lord HARRINGTON moved for certain papers connected with the *Court of Chancery*, introducing his motion with a speech on the necessity of chancery reform.—The Lord CHANCELLOR refused to give the returns, because they were too voluminous and would be of no use to the house. He said that no less than 540 orders had been made for the relief of the suitors, and that they had very much diminished the delays and the fees in the pursuit of justice.—Lord HARRINGTON: The speech of the Lord Chancellor is most unsatisfactory. He promised me the papers yesterday.—The Lord CHANCELLOR: No.—Lord HARRINGTON: I say distinctly that he did promise, and to-day he refuses them. He refuses even to give the names of Lord Eldon's law reform committee. He boasts of the 540 orders, law reform orders issued by five Lord Chancellors; but two good orders would have reformed the Court of Chancery, viz., firstly, an order to do away with fee-gathering; and, secondly,

an order to substitute oral for written pleadings. The motion was refused.

On Tuesday, August 5, Lord MONTEAGLE moved the second reading of a bill for the purpose of removing doubts as to the penalties attaching to the assumption of ecclesiastical titles under the recently-passed ecclesiastical titles act, and which he described as having exactly the same object with the clause which he lately proposed as an addition to that bill. After some discussion, the motion was negatived without a division.

On Thursday, August 7, the Earl of HARROWBY put the question whether the government would use their best offices with the court of Rome to obtain permission to build a Protestant church in that city.—The Marquis of LANSDOWNE replied that no steps had yet been taken in the matter, nor, if such an application were made, was it probable that it would be attended with success.—The Earl of HARROWBY hoped that the Secretary for Foreign Affairs would soon be called on to make the application.—The Bishop of LONDON said that the view entertained of toleration by the church of Rome in that city and in Protestant countries was widely different. In those countries it claimed the widest toleration for itself, while it denied to Protestants at Rome any toleration at all. Within the last few weeks a large sum had been subscribed for the erection of a proper Protestant church at Rome, instead of the granary outside the walls in which the Protestant services were at present performed, and this had been done, not by indulgences, but merely by the love and attachment of British Protestants to the church of England and her ordinances. After some further discussion the matter was dropped.

The Earl of MINTO moved that the Commons' amendments to the *Patent Law Amendment Bill* should be agreed to, but the motion was opposed by Lord MONTEAGLE, who moved that the amendments be considered that day six months.—Earl MINTO then withdrew his motion, while Lord Montague's was carried.

On Friday, August 8, Her Majesty *Prorogued the Parliament* in person, with the usual formalities. When the House of Commons, represented by the Speaker, attended by a considerable number of members, appeared at the bar, the Speaker addressed Her Majesty in the usual form, giving a brief summary of the proceedings of the Session. The Royal speech was then read by Her Majesty:

"MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,

"I am glad to be able to release you from your attendance in Parliament, and I thank you for the diligence with which you have performed your laborious duties.

"I continue to maintain the most friendly relations with foreign powers.

"I am happy to be able to congratulate you on the very considerable diminution which has taken place in the African and Brazilian slave trade. The exertions of my squadrons on the coasts of Africa and Brazil, assisted by the vigilance of the cruisers of France and of the United States, and aided by the co-operation of the Brazilian Government, have mainly contributed to this result.

"GENTLEMEN OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS,

"I thank you for the readiness with which you have granted the supplies necessary for the service of the year.

"MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,

"It is satisfactory to observe, that notwithstanding very large reductions of taxes, the revenue for the past year considerably exceeded the public expenditure for the same period.

"I am rejoiced to find that you have thereby been enabled to relieve my people from an impost which restricted the enjoyment of light and air in their dwellings. I trust that this enactment, with others to which your attention has been and will be directed, will contribute to the health and comfort of my subjects.

"I thank you for the assiduity with which you have applied yourselves to the consideration of a measure framed for the purpose of checking the undue assumption of ecclesiastical titles conferred by a foreign power.

"It gives me the highest satisfaction to find that, while repelling unfounded claims, you have maintained inviolate the great principles of religious liberty, so happily established among us.

"The attention you have bestowed on the administration of justice in the courts of law and equity will, I trust, prove beneficial, and lead to further improvements.

"I have willingly given my consent to a bill relating to the Administration of the Land Revenues of the Crown, which will, I hope, conduce to the better management of that department, and at the same time tend to the promotion of works of public utility.

"It has been very gratifying to me, on an occasion which has brought many foreigners to this country, to observe the spirit of kindness and good-will which so generally prevailed.

"It is my anxious desire to promote among nations the cultivation of all those arts which are fostered by peace, and which in their turn contribute to maintain the peace of the world.

"In closing the present session, it is with feelings of gratitude to Almighty God that I acknowledge the general spirit of loyalty and willing obedience to the law which animates my people. Such a spirit is the best security at once for the progress and the stability of our free and happy institutions."

The Lord CHANCELLOR then, by Her Majesty's command, announced the prorogation of Parliament till Thursday the 4th of September next.

In the HOUSE OF COMMONS, on Saturday July 26, the *Consolidated Fund* (Appropriation) *Bill* was read a third time and passed. The house then went into committee on the *Improvement of Towns* (Ireland) *Bill*, and passed a great many clauses after some prolonged discussion. The report on the *Patent Law Amendment Bill* was brought up and agreed to.

On Monday, July 28, the SPEAKER read a letter from Mr. Salomons, in which that gentleman informed the house that two actions for penalties had been brought against him for taking his seat and voting, and that he had been advised that he ought to apprise the house that such was the case, and also that any resolution which might be come to, adverse to his claims, would be used as evidence in the courts of law against him.—Sir B. HALL, after recapitulating the whole of the proceedings in reference to Mr. Salomons, moved, in accordance with the prayer of a petition from certain of the *Electors of Greenwich*, that they should be heard by counsel at the bar. This motion was opposed by the Attorney-General, Sir F. Thesiger, Lord John Russell, and others, and negatived by 135 to 75.—Mr. RAIKES CURRIE then said, that after the decision which had been come to he would not press upon the house the consideration of the *London Petition in Favour of Baron Rothschild*.—Mr. ANSTAY dissented from the view taken by Mr. Currie, conceiving that Baron Rothschild stood in a different position from Mr. Salomons. He insisted on pressing the question, and moved that the London petitioners should be heard at the bar.—Mr. AGLONBY took the same view of the question.—Mr. CURRIE (who had been chairman at the meeting at which the London petition was agreed to) then gave a description of the petitioners, introduced an amusing description of the volunteered interference of Mr. Anstay "with his well-known pocket-handkerchief," and of Mr. Aglionby, whom he described as of great calibre and no ordinary "bore," and justified himself for not pushing forward a petition, portions of which were the result of the interference he had ridiculed. After some further discussion, the motion was rejected by 77 to 41.—The adjourned debate on Lord J. Russell's resolution *Declaring Mr. Salomons Incapable of Sitting*, was resumed by Mr. ANSTAY, who moved as an amendment the addition of words to the effect that the house, having regard to the religious scruples of Mr. Salomons, would use its undoubted right to make such an alteration in the oath of abjuration as would enable Mr. Salomons to take and subscribe it.—Mr. HEADAM opposed the amendment, which was negatived by 88 to 50: majority against it, 38.—Mr. BETHELL entreated Lord J. Russell not to tarnish his former reputation by pressing his proposed resolution, and strongly recommended the house to hold over its decision upon the legal question until the judgment of a court of law should have been given.—Lord J. RUSSELL (in reply) remarked upon Mr. Bethell's having availed himself, in a purely legal question, of every argument

except one derived from law. Having defended his own conduct in reference to the subject, his lordship said that, though perfectly willing that the opinion of a court of law should be taken upon any question which could properly come before it, he could not see how it could be a case for such a court, whether a member of that house had or had not duly taken the requisite oaths.—Mr. ANSTEY strenuously opposed the resolution.—Mr. J. A. SMITH also opposed it, warning the house that the question would come before it again and again until the Jews should attain their rights.—The house then divided, and the numbers were—for Lord J. Russell's resolution, 123; against it, 68.

The case of *Ann Hicks* having been brought forward by Mr. Osborne, Lord SEYMOUR gave the following explanation. He said no gift of a house in the Park had ever been given to Ann Hicks. She had a stand there, and as she wished to have a stand to be locked the Commissioners of Woods and Forests allowed her one. She then petitioned again to be allowed to increase the stand on account of her fifteen children. After that she asked to be allowed to have a little hut with a fire-place for making tea, but the commissioners refused to let her have a fire-place. She then wrote to have an alteration in the hut, but that was opposed; she then put a new roof on, with a chimney, and she had also a garden; and when he came into office he found that she had permanently located herself in the park. He made inquiries into the matter, and from the unfavourable reports he received of Mrs. Hicks, he considered it his duty that she should be removed. He then wrote to the Duke of Wellington, as ranger of the park, who was of opinion that legal opinion should be obtained. That was obtained, but she still refused to remove. However, she eventually consented to remove on his consenting to give her *6s.* a week for a cottage for twelve months. He had given her the money. The only other cottage which had been erected in the park was one built by Prince Albert near the Glass Palace, and on the understanding that it must be removed at the latter end of this year.

On Tuesday the 29th, Mr. FREWEN moved a resolution for the *Repeal of the Duty on Hops*. He brought forward this motion, he said, in compliance with the earnest request of his constituents. The amount of the duty was not large—little more than 300,000*l.*—though it pressed severely upon certain localities, and he urged the injustice of maintaining this duty, which was the only war tax which had not been repealed or reduced.—Mr. T. L. HODGES moved, as an amendment to the motion, to resolve that on any reduction of excise duty on hops, it is expedient to reduce the excise duty on British hops and the customs' duty on foreign hops by 1*d.* per lb., with the 5 per cent. additional duty. The original motion was supported by Mr. Fuller, Mr. Barrow, and Mr. Curteis.—The Chancellor of the EXCHEQUER repeated the objections he had made on former occasions against repealing this duty. The arrangements for the present financial year had been completed, and it would be most unwise to bind the house as to those of future years.—Sir J. TYRRELL entered his protest against the cavalier manner in which propositions for agricultural relief were met by the government.—Mr. COBDEN observed that the injustice and impolicy of this duty were seen from the manner in which it affected the interests of the hop-growers in different parts of the country. This inequality should alone condemn the tax, which the Chancellor of the Exchequer, he hoped, would early take into his consideration.—Mr. Hodges withdrew his amendment, and Mr. Frewen's motion was negatived upon a division by 69 against 30.

Mr. HEYWOOD moved an address, praying her Majesty to direct that the *Crystal Palace be Preserved until the 1st of May next*, with a view to determine if it can be adapted to purposes of public utility and recreation. He specified several objects to which the structure might be advantageously devoted, remarking that its locality was singularly deficient in places of public recreation. The commissioners could not move of themselves, and must take down the building unless the house interposed.—Colonel SIBTHORP opposed the motion. He had denounced the work at the beginning as a most gross attack upon the rights of the people of

this country. He remained of the same opinion.—Mr. LABOUCHERE dissented altogether from the estimate of the exhibition formed by Colonel Sibthorp. It had ministered to the gratification of hundreds of thousands; its effect upon trade and the arts he believed would be not inconsiderable, but the moral spectacle which had been exhibited in the Crystal Palace by the orderly demeanour of the vast body of persons, foreigners as well as Englishmen, congregated within it, was more admirable than the edifice and its contents. With respect to the motion for a reprieve of the structure, as a commissioner and as a member of the government he should express no opinion upon the proposition, which was a question for the house, and the house alone, to decide.—Sir R. INGLIS, subscribing to the statements made by Mr. Labouchere of the results of the exhibition, still thought that the house was not at liberty to alter the arrangements. It should be looked at simply as a question of contract, which could not be got rid of, except by an act of parliament. The motion was supported by Mr. Ewart, Mr. MacGregor, Colonel Thompson, Mr. Wakely, Mr. C. Villiers, Mr. Clay, Mr. Headlam, and Mr. Geach; and opposed by Mr. Gouldburn, and Lord Seymour.—The Chancellor of the EXCHEQUER cautioned the house on the subject of expense, but declined, as a member of government, to express an opinion on the motion. On a division the motion was carried by 75 against 47.

On Wednesday, the 30th, in answer to Mr. Henley, the Chancellor of the EXCHEQUER said that no steps had as yet been taken for establishing *Steam Communication between the Cape and Sydney*. He was not prepared to say that so expensive a scheme would be adopted.—Lord JOCELYN denied that the proposed step, which had been recommended by the committee of which he had been chairman, would cause great expense; on the contrary, the committee had arrived at the conclusion that the route in question would be the cheapest.

On the motion for going into committee on the *Patent Law Amendment Bill*, Mr. T. EGERTON objected to proceeding with it at such a period of the session.—The Chancellor of the EXCHEQUER said that the bill had been fully considered in the House of Lords, and urged the proceeding with it.—Sir F. Thesiger, Mr. Macgregor, and Sir De Lacy Evans having spoken, the former in favour of, the two latter against postponement, the SOLICITOR-GENERAL said that five hundred persons had taken out protections for articles exhibited at the Great Exhibition, and were waiting to take out patents under the proposed measure.—Mr. T. GREENE objected to the practice of allowing a patentee six months to specify, and said that the bill, as it stood, would have the effect of cheating the intellects of the country of many of their best works.—Mr. CARDWELL would support the bill, but not as a settlement of the patent laws, which required thorough reform, to effect which object he hoped government would next session appoint a select committee.—Lord J. RUSSELL said that Mr. Cardwell's suggestion should be taken into consideration. The government regarded the present bill only as an improvement on the law as it stood. The bill then went through the committee *pro forma*.

The house went into committee on the *Church Building Act Amendment Bill*. The first clause was struck out, and clauses 2 to 28 inclusive were agreed to. A discussion arose on a clause proposed by Mr. Frewen, providing for the case of the avoidance of a benefice with no church or chapel attached, which clause, upon division, was carried by 40 to 37. It was finally agreed that the Solicitor-General should draw up a clause on the subject, with certain alterations suggested by Mr. Gladstone.

On Thursday, the 31st, the Chancellor of the EXCHEQUER repeated, in fuller and more explicit terms than he had used on Tuesday, his statement respecting the *Crystal Palace*. Whether the commissioners were at liberty, under the terms of the memorandum, to apply any portion of the surplus in their hands to the purposes of a winter garden he thought very doubtful; whether, if they had the power, they had the inclination, he could not say. If they were unable or un-

willing, the public could only purchase the building for a sum which might probably amount to 70,000*l*. Then to put it in a fit state for permanent preservation would cost a considerable sum, and there must be an annual outlay for keeping it in repair. So much for the building. In addition to this expenditure there must be a certain outlay for the winter garden itself, and then there was the cost of maintaining it. These five charges must fall upon the public.—The *Metropolitan Sewers Bill* was read a third time and passed, after a protest from Sir B. Hall and Mr. Wakley.—The *Metropolitan Interment Bill* went through committee, not without a division upon its merits.—The house then went into committee upon the remaining clauses of the *Petty Sessions (Ireland) Bill*, and after a protracted discussion upon the 10th clause, the chairman reported progress, the Chancellor of the Exchequer consenting to abandon that portion of the clause which gave new powers to a single magistrate.

The *Episcopal and Capitular Estates Management (No. 2) Bill* was opposed, on the second reading by Colonel Sibthorp, Sir Benjamin Hall, and other Members, not only on the substantive ground that such management of estates ought not to be left in the hands of the bishops, but also on the ground that the bill should not be delayed till the end of the session and then hurried through. The second reading, however, was carried by 45 to 34; ministers expressing a hope that objections might be removed in committee.

On Friday, August 1, the above bill was proceeded with. Its further progress was strenuously opposed by Sir Benjamin Hall, Mr. Henley, Lord Dudley Stuart, and other members, on the grounds that it affects an immense mass of church property in the hands of lessees; that it had been kept back until late in the session, hurried through the House of Lords almost sub silentio, and first made known to the public in the papers of that morning. Ministers were urged to put the bill into the shape that they desired, but not to press its passing until next session.—Lord DUDLEY STUART moved that the debate be adjourned.—Lord J. RUSSELL said a few words, but would not yield; and the house divided putting a negative on the adjournment by 51 to 30.—Mr. FREWEN then moved that the bill be committed that day three months; and Mr. HENLEY suggested that the perseverance of ministers might provoke a sort of opposition to which members would resort with regret. The amendment was negatived by 48 to 37.—Lord J. RUSSELL then proposed to go into committee on the bill on Monday; and it was deferred accordingly.

On Monday, August the 4th, Lord J. RUSSELL brought up Her Majesty's reply to the address of this house, agreed to on Tuesday—praying that the *Crystal Palace* might be preserved until the 1st of May—to the effect that it would be necessary to consider carefully the engagements of the royal commissioners, and that Her Majesty would direct an enquiry into various matters of detail, which must be ascertained before a decision could be come to upon the subject.—After a short preliminary discussion, the house went into committee upon the *Patent Law Amendment Bill*, the details of which occupied the remainder of the sitting, the chairman being ordered to report progress.—The house went into committee upon the *Episcopal and Capitular Estates Bill*. Upon the first clause, empowering ecclesiastical corporations, with the approval of the church estates commissioners, to sell, enfranchise, or exchange church lands, or to purchase the interests of lessees—the SOLICITOR-GENERAL moved, after the words “church estates commissioners,” to add, “who shall pay due regard to the just and reasonable claims of the present holders of land, under lease or otherwise, arising from the long-continued practice of renewal.”—This amendment provoked a long discussion, in the course of which Mr. CARDWELL observed that these words totally changed the principle of the bill, reversing the policy recommended by the Lords' committee.—Sir J. GRAHAM said, the importance of the subject was too great, and the period of the session too advanced, to permit the further progress of this bill, especially in its present form, since to a power given to the church estates commissioners to sell was now added a power to consider claims of

lessees, which would involve a vast amount of property. It was unworthy of this house, he thought, to come to a decision of such importance without notice.—Lord J. RUSSELL said, no binding obligation was cast upon the commissioners, who were merely empowered to take into consideration the “just and reasonable” claims of lessees. The whole question resolved itself into this—whether nothing beyond those claims which could be enforced in a court of law or equity should be granted in any case to lessees, or whether the estates commissioners should have the power at least of considering claims that were just and reasonable.—The committee at length divided upon a motion by Colonel Sibthorp, that the chairman report progress, which was negatived by 58 against 20, and the committee then proceeded with the clauses of the bill, which underwent much discussion, and received certain amendments.

On Tuesday, August the 5th, the Lords' amendments to the *Court of Chancery and Judicial Committee Bill* were agreed to.—The house then went into committee on the *Patent Law Amendment Bill*, and proceeded as far as the 11th clause.—The *Episcopal and Capitular Estates Bill* was reported.

On Wednesday, August the 6th, Lord ARUNDEL and SUREY took the oaths and his seat for the borough of Limerick.—The third reading of the *Episcopal and Capitular Estates Bill* having been moved, Mr. HENLEY, after complaining of the haste with which so important a measure was carried through parliament, moved that the bill be read a third time that day six months. Some miscellaneous conversation took place, but the amendment was ultimately negatived without a division, and the bill was read a third time and passed.—The committee of the *Patent Law Amendment Bill* was then proceeded with, after a discussion which involved the whole principle of the measure, and which Lord Palmerston characterised as disorderly. The opposition being finally withdrawn, the bill went through committee. It was then reported with the amendments upon the measure as it came down from the upper house.—A report from the select committee, designed to regulate and organise the *Attendance of Members of the Commons when summoned to the House of Peers* on the opening and prorogation of the session by Her Majesty, was adopted upon the motion of Lord J. Russell.

On Thursday, August the 7th, on the report of the committee upon the *Patent Law Amendment Bill*, certain amendments were agreed to, Mr. C. LEWIS stating, with reference to an objection made by Sir J. Graham to the compensations being charged upon the consolidated fund, that the government did not think it advisable to create a fee fund, but it was proposed to bring these compensations before the house by an annual vote. The bill was then read a third time and passed.—Sir De Lacy EVANS, referring to “a publication entitled to the highest consideration” (Mr. Gladstone's pamphlet), which stated that above 20,000 persons were *Confined in the Prisons of Naples for alleged Political Offences*, most of them without trial, who were suffering refinements of barbarity and cruelty, inquired whether the British minister at the court of Naples had been instructed to employ his good offices for the diminution of these severities?—Lord PALMERSTON replied that Her Majesty's government had learnt, with infinite pain, a confirmation of various accounts of the very calamitous condition of the kingdom of Naples; but they had not deemed it to be a part of their duty to make any formal representation to the Neapolitan government in a matter relating to the internal affairs of that country. At the same time he thought Mr. Gladstone had done himself very great honour by the course he had pursued at Naples and since; and he (Lord Palmerston) had felt it his duty to send copies of that gentleman's pamphlet to our ministers at the courts of Europe, with instructions to give copies to each, thereby affording them an opportunity of exerting their influence in this matter.—In answer to a question by Lord D. Stuart respecting the *Greek Debt*, Lord PALMERSTON said that the engagement contracted by the government of Greece, under the treaty of 1832, had been from first to last disregarded by that government, and the consequent liability had fallen upon the

three powers; that representations had been made upon the subject by Her Majesty's government to that of Greece, and communications had taken place between the British, French, and Russian governments; that these representations and interventions had hitherto led to no result, the conduct of the Greek government being the less excusable, since, if its financial affairs were properly managed, it had ample means of fulfilling its obligations; that the matter, however, would not be lost sight of, and he was in communication with France and Russia with a view of endeavouring to make some impression upon the score of right and justice on the government of Greece.—Mr. HUME, in moving that the evidence taken before the select committee for inquiring into the *Income-Tax* be laid upon the table, expanded his observations into a review of the general subject of direct and indirect taxation.—The Chancellor of the EXCHEQUER, abstaining from extraneous topics, opposed the motion. The committee had come to the conclusion, which he thought a wise determination, that, the evidence being incomplete, it was inexpedient to lay it before the house, which, he thought, would not interfere with this decision by ordering the printing of imperfect evidence.—The motion was supported by Sir J. Walsley, Mr. J. Williams, and Mr. Urquhart; and opposed by Colonel Thompson. Upon a division, there proved to be but thirty members in the house, whereupon an adjournment took place.

On Friday, August the 8th, Mr. WAKLEY renewed the proposition of Mr. Hume, that the evidence taken before the *Income-Tax* committee be printed.—Lord J. RUSSELL opposed the motion, as contrary to the course determined on by the committee, and as the enquiry was still incomplete. After a short discussion, the house divided, and rejected the motion by 62 to 52.—The house then proceeded to ballot for a deputation of members to accompany the Speaker to the House of Lords; and shortly afterwards, at the summons of the Black Rod, the right honourable gentlemen, attended by the members on whom the lot had fallen, quitted the house and repaired to the House of Peers, where the ceremonial of the prorogation took place.

PROGRESS OF BUSINESS.

House of Lords.—July 25th.—Smithfield Market Removal Bill, Report received.—Merchant Seamen's Fund Bill read a second time.

29th.—Ecclesiastical Titles Assumption Bill read a third time and passed.—Charitable Trusts Bill passed through committee.

31st.—Stock in Trade Bill, and Charitable Trusts Bill read a third time and passed.—Court of Chancery and Judicial Committee Bill read a second time.

Aug. 1st.—Royal Assent to Ecclesiastical Titles Bill and other Bills.

4th.—General Board of Health (No. 2.) Bill, Emigration Advances Bill, and Metropolitan Internment Bill read a second time.—Commissioners of Railways Act Repeal Bill read a third time.

5th.—Lord Montague's additional Ecclesiastical Titles Bill thrown out.

7th.—Royal Assent to a number of Bills.—Commons Amendments to Episcopal and Capital Estates Bill agreed to.—Commons Amendments to Patent Law Amendment Bill rejected.

8th.—Royal Assent to Bills.—Parliament prorogued by the Queen to 4th of September next.

House of Commons.—July 26th.—Improvement of Towns (Ireland) Bill considered in committee.—Other Bills advanced a stage.

28th.—Medical Charities (Ireland) Bill considered in committee.—Valuation (Ireland) Bill abandoned by Ministers.—Greenwich Petition to be heard by Council for Alderman Salomons, and London Petition for Baron Rothschild, refused.—Lord John Russell's resolution that Mr. Salomons is incapable of sitting carried.—Conveyance of Mails by Railway, Bill considered in committee.

29th.—Ballot Bill read a first time.—Metropolitan Sewers Bill passed through committee.—Crystal Palace, Mr. Heywood's motion for an address to the Queen carried.

30th.—Patent Law Amendment Bill committed pro forma.—Church Building Act Amendment Bill passed through committee.

31st.—Metropolitan Sewers Bill read a third time and passed.—Metropolitan Internment Bill passed through committee.—Petty Sessions (Ireland) Bill considered in committee.—Episcopal and Capital Estates Bill (No. 2.) read a second time.

Aug. 1st.—New Writ for Downpatrick, Mr. Ker resigned.—County Courts Further Extension Bill passed through committee.—Episcopal and Capital Estates (No. 2.) Bill committed pro forma.

2nd.—Charitable Trusts Bill withdrawn.

4th.—Patent Law Amendment Bill considered in committee.—Episcopal and Capital Estates Bill passed through committee.

5th.—Patent Law Amendment Bill in committee.

6th.—Episcopal and Capital Estates (No. 2.) read a third time and passed.—Patent Law Amendment Bill passed through committee.

7th.—Rules for Members attending the Sovereign at the prorogation.

8th.—Parliament prorogued.

The *Ecclesiastical Titles Assumption Bill* received the royal assent on the 1st instant. It is the joint production of Her Majesty's ministers, Mr. Walpole, Sir Frederic Thesiger, and Mr. Keogh. The portion contributed by each is marked out in the copy of the act which follows. The part which belongs to her Majesty's ministers is printed in roman letters, the rest in italic, with the names of the respective authors appended. "Whereas divers of Her Majesty's Roman Catholic subjects have assumed to themselves the titles of archbishop and bishops of a pretended province, and of pretended sees or dioceses, within the United Kingdom, under colour of an alleged authority given to them for that purpose by certain briefs, rescripts, or letters apostolical, from the see of Rome, and particularly [Sir F. Thesiger's] by a certain brief, rescript, or letters apostolical, purporting to have been given at Rome on the 29th of September, 1850; and whereas, by the act of the tenth year of King George the Fourth, chapter second, after reciting that the Protestant Episcopal Church of England and Ireland, and the doctrine, discipline, and government thereof, and likewise the Protestant Presbyterian Church of Scotland, and the doctrine, discipline, and government thereof, were by the respective acts of Union of England and Scotland, and of Great Britain and Ireland, established permanently and invariably, and that the right and title of archbishops to their respective provinces, of bishops to their sees, and of deans to their deaneries, as well in England as in Ireland, had been settled and established by law, it was enacted, that if any person after the commencement of that act, other than the person thereunto authorised by law, should assume or use the name, style, or title of archbishop of any province, bishop of any bishopric, or dean of any deanery in England or Ireland, he should for every such offence forfeit and pay the sum of 100*l*. [Mr. Walpole's]: And whereas it may be doubted whether the recited enactment extends to the assumption of the title of archbishop or bishop of a city, place, or territory, or dean of any pretended deanery in England or Ireland, not being the see, province, or diocese of any archbishop or bishop, or deanery of any dean, recognised by law; but the attempt to establish, under colour of authority, from the see of Rome or otherwise, such pretended sees, provinces, dioceses, or deaneries, is illegal and void: And whereas it is expedient to prohibit the assumption of such titles in respect of any places within the United Kingdom: Be it therefore declared and enacted by the Queen's most excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords spiritual and temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, that—1. *All such briefs, rescripts, or letters apostolical, and all every the jurisdiction, authority, pre-eminence, or title conferred, or pretended to be conferred, thereby, are, and shall be, and be deemed unlawful and void.* [Mr. Walpole's.] 2. And be it enacted, that if, after the passing of this act, any person shall obtain, or cause to be procured, from the Bishop or see of Rome, or shall publish or put in use, within any part of the United Kingdom, any such bull, brief, rescript, or letters apostolical, or any other instrument or writing, for the purpose of constituting such archbishops or bishops of such pretended provinces, sees, or dioceses within the United Kingdom, or if any person [Sir F. Thesiger's] other than a person thereunto authorised by law in respect of an archbishopric, bishopric, or deanery, of the United Church of England and Ireland, assume or use the name, style or title of archbishop, bishop, or dean of any city, town, or place, or of any territory or district (under any designation or description whatsoever) in the United Kingdom, whether

such city, town or place, or such territory or district, be or be not the see or the province, or co-extensive with the diocese, of any bishop, or the seat or place of the church of any dean, or co-extensive with any deanery of the said United Church, the person so offending shall for every such offence forfeit and pay the sum of 100*l.*, to be recovered as penalties imposed by the recited act which may be recovered under the provisions thereof, or by action of debt at the suit of any person in one of her Majesty's superior courts of law, with the consent of her Majesty's Attorney-General in England and Ireland, or her Majesty's Advocate in Scotland, as the case may be. [Sir F. Thesiger's]. 3. This act shall not extend or apply to the assumption or use by any bishop of the Protestant Episcopal Church in Scotland exercising episcopal functions within some district or place in Scotland of any name, style, or title, in respect of such district or place; but nothing herein contained shall be taken to give any right to any such bishop to assume or use any name, style, or title, which he is not now by law entitled to assume or use. 4. Be it enacted, that nothing herein contained shall be construed to annul, repeal, or in any manner affect any provision contained in an act passed in the eighth year of the reign of her present Majesty, intitled "An Act for the more effectual application of charitable donations and bequests in Ireland." [Mr. Keogh's].—Originally the words were "The said brief, rescript, &c.," on the amendment of Sir Frederic Thesiger, the words "All such briefs, rescripts, &c.," were substituted.

The *Suffolk Agricultural Relief Association* had a meeting at Ipswich, on the 29th of July. This was called mainly to fraternise with the financial reformers, (of which body Mr. Charles Lattimore and Mr. Slack officially attended,) to organise the association more thoroughly, and to appeal to the public for support. Mr. Welch of Yaxley, who took the chair, said the meeting "showed the public dawn of a conviction on the tenant-farmers' minds, that they had too long allowed others to act for them"; that they were "resolved to use every constitutional means to obtain fair play in their agricultural operations"; and that "farmers had been used as ladders on which others climbed to the pinnacle of power, and when the object was accomplished, the ladder was kicked down like sere wood." On the important subject of tenant right, he said—"If a man build a castle in a cabbage-garden, he could not touch it at the end of his lease. All other classes had remuneration for unexhausted improvements, but the farmers had no provision of this kind in their leases." One of the resolutions pledged the association to support only those candidates for Parliament who would further the objects of the association.

On Monday evening, the 4th inst., after dark, Cardinal Wiseman preached in the open air to a crowd of several thousand Irish, assembled in a court in Orchard Street, Portman Square, a place almost entirely inhabited by Irish labourers. The court was illuminated and the cardinal preached from a platform. The chief object of his discourse was to excite his hearers against a Ragged School established in the neighbourhood. He went in procession, attended by boys and men wearing white surplices, and bearing lighted candles and an immense crucifix. Many policemen were standing round but none attempted to interfere with the cardinal's proceedings.

The *Aggregate Meeting of Roman Catholics*, for the inauguration of the "Catholic Defence Association" was held in Dublin, on the 19th. Great excitement prevailed in the city, and the streets in the neighbourhood of the Rotunda were filled with vast crowds, many of whom from the sticks they carried were evidently prepared for strife; but from the precautions taken, by the muster of police and military, no serious disturbance took place. The Rev. Tresham Gregg, who had pledged himself to appear at the meeting and confront the popish primate, arrived, accordingly, and claimed admission; but this being refused he retired quietly, protesting the meeting was a packed assemblage of papists and not a catholic meeting. In the Rotunda, a platform was elevated at a considerable height for the speakers; and on the front of this raised ground the prelates were marshalled in

prominent arm-chairs, a gilded chair being reserved for the Roman Catholic Primate, Dr. Cullen. The *Freeman's Journal* thus enumerates the Roman Catholic prelates, English, Irish, Scottish, and foreign:—"His grace the Archbishop of Cashel, the lord bishop of Clogher, the lord bishop of Birmingham, the lord bishop of Edinburgh, the lord bishop of Elphin, the lord bishop of Killaloe, the lord bishop of Clonfert, the lord bishop of Savannah, the lord bishop of Cloyne, the lord bishop of Hyderabad the lord bishop of Saldaes."—The Irish Roman Catholic aristocracy was represented by Lord Gormanston only, and that of England by Sir Piers Mostyn. The Earl of Arundel and Surrey was expected, but did not attend. The following Irish members were present—Mr. G. H. Moore, Mr. John Reynolds, Mr. William Keogh, Mr. A. O'Flaherty, Mr. O. Higgins, Mr. Martin Joseph Blake, Mr. John Sadleir, Mr. Francis Scully, and Mr. Robert Keating. The attendance of Roman Catholic clergy was very large, but the muster of the Roman Catholic laity did not comprise so many distinguished names as had been expected. The preliminaries being adjusted, Lord Gormanston moved that "the most reverend Dr. Cullen, archbishop of Armagh and primate of all Ireland," be requested to take the chair. The voice of Lord Gormanston not being strong, Mr. Reynolds, M.P., in seconding the motion, shouted out the main point of it, that is to say, the title of "Archbishop of Armagh." Immense applause was elicited by this feat of defiance, and the motion was carried by acclamation. Primate Cullen read a long address. He dwelt upon the alleged grievances suffered by the catholics, who had been forced into their present position. He stigmatised the Dublin correspondence which (he said) excited the dying embers of discord, and stirred up all that was base and filthy in the depths of bigotry and intolerance. It remained for them to do their duty as catholics, in co-operating to redress these grievances. A great field would be open for the operations of the association. Their poor were to be protected from a heartless proselytism; the faith of the children of the soldier and the sailor to be preserved; the state of our workhouses to be examined; a catholic education to be obtained. In a catholic country like this there was a great and perfectly organised system of protestant instruction. Hundreds of thousands were expended in promoting a purely protestant education, whilst the sums given to catholic schools (with one exception) were given only on the condition that the system of the schools which were filled with catholic children should be suited to the education of children of every sect who do not frequent such schools; and they were left without any catholic university." One of the important duties of the society would be to have recourse to the press:—"It must in a special manner make every effort to have the rights and interests of their religion properly represented in parliament." The primate then held up for imitation the example of the great O'Connell, whose loss he described as an irreparable calamity; and concluded with a prayer to God for wisdom; to "the Most Holy Queen of Heaven" for good counsel; and to "our great saints, St. Patrick, St. Malachy, and St. Lawrence O'Toole," for direction and a beneficial fructifying influence on the undertaking.—Mr. Sadleir, M.P., one of the honorary secretaries then read a letter from Cardinal Wiseman, expressing his concurrence in the objects of the meeting, and his readiness to co-operate with the proposed association, this letter was signed "N. Cardinal Wiseman." A string of resolutions, in accordance with the objects of the meeting, were then passed, after having been moved and seconded, in speeches of considerable length by the leading persons present. The first, to the effect that the act lately passed was a violation of the catholic relief act, and subversive of the principle of religious liberty, was moved by Archbishop Slattery, and seconded by Sir R. Mostyn, Bart., of Lancashire. The next "that ministers had betrayed the cause of civil and religious freedom, and forfeited the confidence of the catholics of the united kingdom," was moved by Archbishop M'Hale, and seconded by Mr. Keogh, M.P.—Dr. M'Hale produced much cheering and laughter by saying that he did not anticipate that there would be any discrepancy of opinion regarding the adoption of the resolution, though he confessed there might be

numbers who indulged in the private opinion that ministers had never betrayed the cause of civil and religious freedom, because they had never been entrusted with it, or the confidence of the catholics of the united kingdom, because they had never possessed it.—Mr. KEOGH began his speech with this declaration:—"As one of Her Majesty's counsel, whether learned or not learned in the law, I now, holding the act of Parliament in my hand, do unhesitatingly accord to this most reverend prelate [the chairman] the title of Lord Archbishop of Armagh." He affirmed that if the act now passed be carried into execution, the clergy could not administer a single act of their religion without violating the law. Let them send into parliament forty representatives reasonably determined to stand together as one man, and to say to the minister of the day that they required such and such measures for Ireland, and above all a repeal of that bill. If their representatives would make no terms with the minister until he repealed that act of parliament, or any other statute which interfered with the religious freedom of Roman Catholics, he would not again write a letter stating that the Roman Catholic religion was "calculated to confine the intellect and enslave the soul." Dr. Gillis, colleague of Dr. Carruthers, the Roman Catholic Bishop of Edinburgh, moved a resolution pledging the association to the use of every legitimate means within the constitution for the total repeal of the ecclesiastical titles act. Mr. MOORE, M.P., for Mayo, seconded the resolution, and spoke in a tone of defiance. Were half-a-dozen men in England to be allowed to impede or annul the religious worship of the Irish people? "We defy, spit upon, and scorn their enactments. Our prelates shall continue to be the bishops of their Irish sees, all statutes to the contrary notwithstanding." Dr. Ullathorne, Roman Catholic Bishop of Birmingham, moved, "That for the above objects, we deem it necessary to establish a catholic defence association, and that the same be and is hereby established." His speech, too, breathed resistance. It was his duty, he said, in every way he could to avoid collision with any enactment, however penal or atrocious. But where his duty warned him to obey the divine law he must do so. He could not possibly withhold the signature of his office—which was inseparable from his person and was indicative of his title, though not in the legal sense of the word—from certain documents, without himself becoming a recreant to the church of God and an apostate to his high office. Therefore, where he could not otherwise fulfil his duty, he would append the whole designation of his office; where it was useful it should be done. Then as to the consequences of so acting, he had come to the conclusion, after mature deliberation, that he could not have recourse to the purse which was confided to him for the support of the clergy and the promotion of religion, for the payment of fines inflicted by this penal enactment. He was prepared at once to go to gaol. But should his spiritual children feel the want of their pastor, it would be no acquiescence in the penal act, but a strong protest against it, for them to raise a fund—by a penny subscription suppose,—for the purpose of delivering him out of gaol. He thought the inhabitants of Birmingham would be ready to enter into such a protest if needful, and that the government would tire of prosecuting before they tired of delivering him out of gaol. These sentiments were received with loud cheers. Mr. John Reynolds seconded the motion in a characteristic speech. "That little, fanatic, and insolent Lord John Russell—not satisfied with introducing the bill, rummaged history—all the lying volumes that were compiled by all lying historians that ever defiled their pens in lying against the religion of the people—and delivered them in the shape of a speech in the house of commons to five hundred of his supporters, who swallowed it as political gospel." They would not be satisfied with the repeal of the act, but they will repeal the whigs from office. They intend to appeal to every county and borough in Ireland. His experience of five years in the house taught him, although there were a few honest men amongst them, that if the system prevailed which had prevailed for half a century, it would be better that the honest men of Ireland had no power to return representatives. They would ask the honest men of Youghal, if they would

disgrace themselves by sending in that political slave Chisholm Anstey; and the people of Drogheda, whether they would disgrace themselves by re-electing a political slave like Sir William Somerville. They would ask similar questions with reference to Mr. Fitzstephen French, and Mr. Clements, and the member for Leitrim. (Hisses.) There were not twenty true representatives among the hundred-and-five; and if that be the case, how could they make a better battle than they had made. After paying the expenses of the catholic defence association, half the surplus would be devoted to the lord primate and his brother bishops, to be disposed of by them for the purpose of education; and the balance they would hand over to honest men coming forward for the representation of honest constituencies, to pay a portion of the legal expenses of their election. A resolution nominating a committee was moved by the Roman Catholic bishop of Clonfert, and seconded by Mr. Bianconi. Mr. Vincent Scully, M.P., moved the preparation of an address to the catholics of the united kingdom; and was seconded by Mr. John Rawson of Lancashire,—who considered the meeting entitled to the assistance of the dissenting body of England. Mr. Sergeant Shee and Mr. Maguire proposed and carried a vote of thanks to the Duke of Newcastle, the Earl of Aberdeen, Lord Montague, Sir James Graham, Mr. Gladstone, Mr. Sidney Herbert, Mr. Roundell Palmer, and other distinguished protestants in parliament, who sustained the cause of religious liberty. Dr. Cullen now quitted the chair, and a vote of thanks was voted to him. Three cheers each were given for each prelate of the Irish Roman Catholic church; Mr. Reynolds reading the names aloud with the prohibited titles; and with that parting mark of "defiance to the government," the meeting dispersed.

On the following day, the 20th, there was a meeting of the committee to proceed with the preparation of the rules and regulations for the future government of the body, and also to prepare the address of the Roman catholics of the empire, in compliance with the resolution of the aggregate meeting. "His grace the lord archbishop of Armagh" took the chair, and, says the *Freeman's Journal* "Considerable progress was made in the draughting of the rules and regulations, and the preparation of the address which will be submitted for the perusal and amendment, before final adoption, of the prelates of the united kingdom, and those members of parliament who were on Tuesday nominated for that purpose by the aggregate meeting. The 17th of September has been fixed for the next meeting of the committee, when the prelates and members will attend, by which time the rules and the address will be finally prepared."

NARRATIVE OF LAW AND CRIME.

SOME excitement was created at the opening of the *Newcastle Assizes* by the unusual conduct of the high sheriff, Sir Horace St. Paul. Instead of escorting the judges with the traditional pomp, a very plain clarence carriage, without any ornament whatever, and having a rumble behind, in which were two footmen in plain liveries, was the only parade, if it can be so called, which was afforded to the judges. The carriage-mountings were plated, and the mountings of the harness on the pair of horses were in brass; in fact, the harness was that of a common stage-coach or omnibus. There were no javelin-men, out-riders, trumpeters, or attendants of any kind, beyond the driver on the box and the two footmen in the rumble. Mr. Baron Platt felt this as an indignity; and he referred to it in his charge to the grand jury.—"I cannot leave you," he said "without expressing my regret that in this great country, and in this great county of Northumberland, the gentry are so reduced as not to show the ordinary respect and loyalty to the crown. It is not merely as judges that we come here; we are ministers under the royal commission. We have the honour to attend before you under the commission or sign manual of Her Majesty: and in this country, where any disloyalty or any disregard to the administration of justice is considered a slur, I do regret that the usual and ordinary garniture by which that

loyalty is displayed should not have been exhibited on the present occasion." The high sheriff, rising in considerable perturbation, said—"I have been directly charged with disloyalty. I publicly declare that the accusation is unjust and unfounded. I am as loyal a subject as there is in any county in the kingdom." The judge—"I must certainly say that, as a gentleman of ample means, that loyalty to the crown and respect for Her Majesty's commission has not been exhibited."

At the Durham Assizes, on the 30th of July, a case of *Criminal Conversation* was tried, in which both the gentlemen were surgeons. Mr. Potts was plaintiff, Mr. Bulman defendant. It was clearly established that Mrs. Potts, six months after her marriage, became a drunkard. The husband had already got a verdict against another man for improper behaviour with Mrs. Potts. The jury estimated the loss Mr. Potts had suffered from deprivation of the society of such a wife at 1s.

At the York Assizes, *Thirteen Men have been convicted of Highway Robbery*, seven of the cases accompanied by personal violence. Mr. Justice Williams said the crime had become so frequent as to be a "complete nuisance." All the convicts were sentenced to be transported.

When the Chief Justice of the Common Pleas opened the *Carlisle Assizes*, he expressed his gratification that the calendar gave satisfactory proof of the tranquillity of the county. At Tipperary, there was not a single case of highway robbery, murder, taking of arms, sending threatening letters, or any offence of an agrarian nature, since the previous Assizes. In Mayo, Kildare, and Kilkenny, the offences on the calendar were not of a serious character.

At Exeter Assizes, on the 29th of July, there was a very important trial with respect to the *Restraint of Lunatics by Relatives*. John Yeo was presented by the commissioners of Lunacy for an "assault" on Charles Luxmoore, knowing him to be of unsound mind, and having voluntarily undertaken the charge of him. Yeo is brother-in-law to Luxmoore; who had been insane for many years, and had been confined and chained for thirteen, during most of the period in his parents' house, but for the last four years at Yeo's farm. The trial was for the treatment during the four years.

When Yeo took Luxmoore's parents and himself into his house, he brought from the Luxmoore's former residence a wooden cell in which the lunatic had been confined, and adopted towards him the same treatment that he had experienced from his parents, now bedridden. The man was confined in this cell, seven feet long, seven feet high, and between four and five wide; a chain was riveted to his leg, and was carried through the floor and attached to a beam below. When a magistrate recently heard of the lunatic's confinement and went to the place, Luxmoore was found in his cell naked; the place was exceedingly filthy; there was a bedstead with the legs cut off, but no bed-clothes; there was a little straw in the den; the interior was so dark that a lantern was required to inspect it at mid-day. It did not appear that Yeo had any evil intent in thus treating his brother-in-law, but that he only continued the system adopted by the parents, who seem to have kept the poor creature confined to save the expense they would have incurred by sending him to an asylum. Witnesses called for the defendant declared that Luxmoore was violent, dirty in his habits, and addicted to destroying or polluting any clothes given to him: if he were cleansed and dressed, he soon tore his garments and was as naked as ever. Dr. Bucknall, medical superintendent of the Devon Lunatic Asylum, to which the patient was removed on the order of a magistrate, declared that since he had been there he had been very clean, quiet, and inoffensive; treatment such as he had suffered would make him violent, increase his disease, and render cure less probable: only a very strong constitution could have endured such treatment; it had debilitated Luxmoore. There seemed to be no imputation on Yeo that he kept the man a secret prisoner; but, on the contrary, his confinement was, said a clergyman, "notorious in the village." Yeo's counsel argued, that he had acted from no improper motive; and reminded the jury that not very long ago lunatics were confined in dark cells, chained, and flogged, in asylums. Mr. Justice Coleridge, in laying down the law for the jury, remarked that

mere ignorance of the law did not absolve a man from its penalties if he broke it. Though magistrates have been authorised to chain lunatics, no such authority has been given to private persons. The jury returned a verdict of "guilty," but strongly recommended the prisoner to mercy. He was sentenced to six months' imprisonment.

At the Stafford Assizes, on the 30th of July, Duffield and two others, were convicted of a *Conspiracy to raise Wages*, by inducing workmen to leave their employment unless their demands were complied with; for summing up the case the judge explained the law on this subject. It was clear, he said, that workmen were at liberty, while free from engagements, to enter or not into employment as they pleased, and had a right to agree among themselves to say, "We will not go into any employment unless we get certain wages." One workman, perfectly free from engagements, might say, "I will not go into employment unless I have a certain rate of wages;" or all such workmen might agree that, as able-bodied workmen, they would not take employment unless the employer gave a certain rate; but it would be most dangerous if they were to hold that workmen who thought that a certain rate of wages was not sufficient had a right to combine, in order to induce men in the employ of their masters to leave their employment for the purpose of compelling their masters to raise their wages. If a manufacturer had his capital embarked in his trade, and had accepted orders for execution, and any persons conspired to take away all his workmen, that would be a molesting him in his manufacture. Though workmen have the right to agree that none of those who make the agreement will go into employment unless at a certain rate of wages, they have no right to molest, intimidate, or annoy other workmen.

At the Southwark police office on the 2nd inst. Mr. David Edwards and Mr. William Edwards, the former a magistrate in South Wales, were charged with *Smoking in one of the carriages on the Croydon Railway*, and David Edwards was charged with *Assaulting Mr. Rowe*, a gentleman holding a situation in the government service. The complainant, whose right eye was much swollen, said that last evening he came up from Dover in a second-class carriage, and on their arrival at the Annerley station the defendant got in, and commenced smoking cigars immediately. There were several ladies in the carriage, and the smoking was a nuisance to them, which induced witness to interfere. Mr. David Edwards pushed his cigar into witness's face, when he knocked it out of his mouth, and received in return several blows on the eye, which rendered him insensible for some time. The prisoners continued their unruly conduct until the train arrived at the London bridge station, when witness informed one of the constables connected with the railway, and gave them into custody. This evidence was corroborated by other witnesses. The magistrate said that such conduct must be repressed, and he was sorry that gentlemen in their position of life should commit themselves in such a disgraceful manner. He should fine each of them 10s. for smoking in the railway carriage, and fine Mr. David Edwards 40s. for the assault. The defendants paid the fine, and left the court laughing.

Captain Cundy, a gentleman living at Bedminster, near Bristol, committed *Suicide* on the 2nd inst. by blowing out his brains with a pistol.

At the Thames police office, on the 2nd inst., Edward Jay, a boy eleven years old, was accused of *Stealing half-a-pound of Meat*, the property of Mr. Mace, a butcher in High Street, Poplar. Jay's father keeps a shoemaker's shop next door to the butcher's. Mr. Mace stated, that in consequence of numerous losses of pieces of meat, which he affirmed had been stolen by Mr. Jay or some of his family, a policeman in plain clothes was directed to watch. The policeman deposed, that he saw Mr. Jay and his son come out of the shoe-shop, and look about them and into the butcher's shop. After remaining outside about a minute, they returned into their own place; and the boy, after speaking to a person in his father's shop, came out again with the handle of a toasting-fork at his side, which he kept down by the side of his trousers, as if to conceal it from view, and, after

looking about to see if the coast was clear, he stood near his father's shop-door, and with the instrument dragged a piece of meat off Mr. Mace's shop-board, and allowed it to fall on the ground. After looking about again, the little boy picked up the piece of meat and ran into his father's shop, and gave it to his sister, who was seated close to a table in the back parlour. The young woman received the meat and put it on the table. The policeman instantly entered the house. Two witnesses called for the defence said nothing inconsistent with the constable's story. Mr. Mace interceded for the prisoner, and humbly suggested that the boy might have taken the meat for his dog. The magistrate said that this was a very bad case; for there was not the excuse of want, Jay's father keeping a large house and appearing to have a good business; the boy had evidently been directed by older heads, and he would receive less contamination in a prison than in his father's home. The sentence was, that the prisoner should be imprisoned with hard labour for one month, and be once whipped. The boy screamed on hearing the sentence, and implored of his father and mother to save him and take him away. He was removed by the gaoler, amidst great excitement in the court, exclaiming, "Why did I do it? Save me, father, save me!" General regret was felt that the poor boy was to be punished, instead of those who appeared to have instigated his act.

Mr. Anderson, the late lessee of Drury Lane Theatre, applied to the *Insolvent Court* on the 5th for his discharge. There were 201 creditors, but not one opposed. Mr. Anderson lost all his property—some 4000*l.*—and incurred liabilities for 5684*l.* during his unfortunate lesseeship. In the first season, the average loss per night was 30*l.* 5*s.*; in the second, 44*l.* per night. The chief commissioner said he saw no debts of reckless extravagance in the schedule; and he ordered Mr. Anderson to be discharged forthwith.

At the Ipswich Assizes, Maria Cage, a woman of fifty, has been convicted of the *Murder of her Husband*. She has been a dissolute person; living with another man while her husband was in prison for some offence, and subsequently exposing her daughter, a girl of sixteen, to prostitution: she got another female to buy arsenic on a false pretence; Cage died from arsenic; and there could be no doubt that his wife was the prisoner, though there was no direct evidence of the fact. In passing sentence of death, the Lord Chief Baron deplored the frequency of similar crimes, especially in the county of Suffolk.

John Payne, a boy of eleven, has been tried at Lewes Assizes, for the *Murder* of another boy, at Horsham. Payne had struck the boy in the chest with a knife; it was doubtful whether any quarrel or scuffle had taken place previously. The verdict was for "manslaughter" only, with a recommendation to mercy on account of the offender's youth. Lord Chief Justice Jervis stated, that he had received information that Payne was of violent habits and obdurate temper; sentence, to be transported for ten years,—that is, he will be placed in Parkhurst Prison, taught in a school, and severely trained.

At the Carlisle Assizes, on the 6th, the Reverend Joseph Smith, Curate of Walton, was tried for the *Manslaughter* of William Armstrong. Armstrong, a farmer, went to the house at midnight, and rattled the shutters; Mr. Smith, in great perturbation, fired a revolving pistol twice from the door, but was unconscious that he had hit any one. Armstrong's body was found in the garden next morning. For the defence, it was contended that the prisoner under a *bonâ fide* impression that his house was about to be broken in at midnight, was justified in firing his pistol to alarm those whom he believed to be attacking his house; and unfortunately, in so doing, he had accidentally shot the deceased. Mr. Baron Platt left it to the jury to say whether they believed the prisoner had *bonâ fide* acted under such circumstances of alarm; and whether, being justified in protecting his house, in firing his pistol he had accidentally shot the deceased. The jury retired, and after an absence of half an hour found the prisoner "not guilty." Mr. Smith immediately fell on his knees and raised his hands to Heaven, amid the deep silence of the crowded court.

At the Staffordshire Assizes, there was a case of *Homicide*, in which the undoubted affection of the criminal for his victim gave a touching interest to the trial, very different from that usually excited by such matters and such characters. Catherine Morris, a woman of loose character, lived with James Jones, described as a good-looking young man. She resolved to quit him; he took it much to heart, and in a fit of passion cut her throat, in a way that speedily caused death. Then all he wished was to be dead too. Before the woman died she kissed her assassin; after her death he fondly kissed the corpse. During the trial (as the report states) "there was scarcely a dry eye in court." The jury returned a verdict of "manslaughter" only, and the sentence was transportation for life.

An additional instance of English *Thuggism* in the provinces has come out at Shrewsbury Assizes. A man and a woman were returning at night from Church Stretton fair; four men pounced on them, twisted sticks round their throats, and rifled their pockets. One of the robbers, Thomas Madeley, was afterwards arrested with a foreign coin in his possession, part of the plunder. He was convicted, and sentenced to be transported for fifteen years.

At the Croydon Assizes, on the 12th, a gentleman named Hitch obtained a *Verdict* for 1500*l.* damages against the London and Brighton Railway Company. The circumstances were rather peculiar, inasmuch as the plaintiff appeared to have sustained the injuries for which he sought compensation while he was travelling by one of the South-Eastern trains, and not by any direct act of the defendants. The accident occurred on the 14th of March, and the evidence went to show that what is called a "pick-up train" had started from London between the ordinary quarter-past seven o'clock Croydon train, and the Dover and Hastings train which started from London at half-past seven. The Croydon train passed New-Cross, the scene of the accident, with safety, and upon the arrival of the "pick-up" it stopped for the purpose of having some carriages attached to it, and to effect this it was necessary that it should be "shunted" off the main line to a siding. At this period it was admitted that the Dover train was known to be nearly due; but before the tail carriages of the "pick-up" train were got off the main line, the expected train came up and ran into them, causing a violent concussion and serious injury to the plaintiff. The case for the plaintiff was that the train of the South-Eastern company had started in due course, that they were entitled to travel freely upon the line, and that the accident had been occasioned by the negligence of the servants of the defendants in not having the line cleared, and permitting the obstruction to be upon it, which was the occasion of the accident. For the defence it was attempted to establish that the accident had been caused by the negligence of the guards and drivers of the South-Eastern train, and their inattention to signals that were made to them to start before the accident occurred. Several servants of the Brighton company were called as witnesses, but their evidence was very far from making out this view of the case; for, although it appeared that two green flags had been exhibited as signals, it was admitted that they only indicated caution to the coming train, and that the red flag, which was an indication of danger, was not shown at all, and one of the witnesses admitted that he was not even aware that the "pick-up" train was to be "shunted" in the way described, and that if he had, he should certainly have exhibited the "danger" signal. It was likewise elicited in the course of cross-examination that a clock at the station which regulated the movements of a large number of trains was four minutes too slow, and the swiftnessman said, in answer to questions put to him, that the clock was in his charge, and that he wound it up, but he at the same time stated that he had no correct means of knowing whether it kept good time or not, it being at the same time proved in evidence that the process of "shunting" occupied from seven to ten minutes, that a great number of trains were continually passing, and that every minute was occasionally of the utmost importance, as regarded the safety of the public travelling upon the railway. The Lord Chief Justice, in summing up the case, expressed his strong

disapprobation at the negligence in attending to the clock, upon the accuracy of which the lives of so many people necessarily depended.

Sarah Barber, convicted at the Nottingham Assizes of *Poisoning her Husband*, at Eastwood, on the 20th of March last, has been respited during her Majesty's pleasure. Circumstances tending to show that she was an accessory only after the fact have led to this favourable change in her behalf.

At Gloucester Assizes, on the 15th, Richard Kear, James James, George Charles, Thomas Stephens, and Thomas James, young colliers, all of them under the age of twenty-four, were tried for *Rape*. Mary Mc'Carthy, a poor Irishwoman, who was travelling across the country in search of her brother, a railway labourer, came late at night on the 29th July to a spot in the forest of Dean, where the prisoners were assembled round a fire lighted near the mouth of a coal-pit. She was almost dead with hunger, thirst, and cold. The prisoners pretended to take compassion on her, carried her into a house, and there all joined in committing the crime charged against each of them. They were all found guilty. Baron Martin declared the case to be about the most abominable that had ever been proved in a court of justice against men. The first two prisoners were sentenced to be transported for life; the other three were sentenced to transportation for fifteen years.

At the Chester Assizes, a boy of ten years old was tried on the charge of *Placing pieces of Iron on the Rails* of the London and North-western Railway. He pleaded guilty. He had artfully covered the iron with hay, to deceive the policeman. It was stated that many attempts of this kind have recently been made, requiring the greatest vigilance to prevent disaster: sixteen extra policemen have been placed on the line for this purpose.

A collier, named William Loft, has committed *Suicide* at a place near Oldham, by throwing himself headlong down a coal-pit, 200 feet deep. It appeared, at the inquest on his body, that he had a wife and family, and lived on bad terms with the former, owing to inequality of temper, and committed the act in a fit of temporary insanity. The jury returned a verdict to that effect.

At the Chester Assizes, on the 15th, a case occurred remarkable for its unexpected result. Jonathan Barcroft, a worker in a calico factory, was tried for the *Murder* of his daughter, a child of eleven months old, by means of poison; and for the murder of Ellen Mills, another child nearly three years old, by the same means. Briefly the facts were these. The daughter was a sickly infant, one of several healthier children, and the mother's time had been much taken up with nursing it. It was proved that, six days before the child's death, the prisoner had obtained some arsenic from a fellow-workman; and that the death was occasioned by a violent attack of sickness and vomiting, which came on after the prisoner had given the child some porridge. A poor woman named Mills went up with her children to the house as soon as she heard of the child's illness, to give what help she could to the distressed mother; and some of the same porridge was given, accidentally, and not by the prisoner, to Ellen Mills, "a very lively pretty looking little girl." The prisoner was not then in the house. His child died during the day, and Ellen Mills died that night. Barcroft then applied to his burial society for the allowance for the child's burial, which was refused till he should have produced the certificate of death. This he accordingly took means to obtain, but not from the registrar of his own district (Cheshire), but from that of the adjoining county (Derbyshire), to whom, representing that his child had died of chin-chough, he made also false affirmation as to the place of her death. In the mean time an inquest was held on the child's body. A country practitioner examined the stomach, and gave it as his opinion that it contained no arsenic. The inquest was adjourned and the body placed in the grave. Two days after this the body of the child Ellen Mills was found to contain arsenic beyond all doubt. Barcroft was consequently arrested, and the inquest was resumed; when, the body of his child being disinterred and subjected to the tests applied in the case of Ellen Mills, the same poison was detected in both bodies:

facts distinctly proved by the evidence of two intelligent witnesses, both respectable members of the medical profession. On this inquest Barcroft was committed for trial; and, as he seemed in a state of dejection, a bailiff of the county court was put to watch him in his cell. This person, William Leigh, deposed that the prisoner had not only confessed having obtained arsenic from the man who was subsequently proved to have given it to him, but that he had also tried to engage Leigh with a bribe of two sovereigns, in an attempt to fix the guilt of the murder on the father of the child Ellen Mills, by inducing him to procure arsenic from the same man who had given it to himself, for the purpose of putting it into Mills's pocket. This witness gave his evidence clearly, and was corroborated in essential points. But the defence turned entirely on the non-credibility of his evidence, and on the admission of one of the medical men that the metal "antimony" might have produced not dissimilar appearances to those resulting from the poison "arsenic;" from which it was argued, that though arsenic taken in the prisoner's house might have killed Ellen Mills, it was not impossible but that antimony might have killed the child of the prisoner. Mr. Justice Talford summed up at great length, and unfavourably for the prisoner. The Jury, after an absence of above two hours, returned a verdict of "Not Guilty," to the evident surprise of the learned Judge and of all present. The effect of the announcement on the prisoner himself was shown by his suddenly falling back in a fainting fit.

William Day, the young man who was convicted under the Bishop of Oxford's act for the protection of females, and sentenced to be imprisoned for a year (see *Household Narrative* for May last, page 111), has been *Liberated* after an incarceration of nearly two months: inquiries have given every ground for supposing that the girl Harriet Newman, who told so romantic a story, had invented the whole tissue. She is now threatened with a prosecution for perjury.

Andrew Maclean, a tailor, has been charged before the Westminster magistrate with attempting to *Hang his Wife*. A neighbour was called in by one of Maclean's children; the woman was suspended to a cupboard-door; she was black in the face. The wife tried to shield her husband—he was too good a husband; she would not speak against him. The Magistrate compelled her to give evidence; and she told a most preposterous story to make out that Maclean only hung her for "a joke"! It was all her fault, by abusing the man and driving him to drink. The magistrate was more influenced by the probabilities of the case than by the tale prompted by the poor woman's misplaced affection, and committed Maclean for trial.

John Mickleburgh, a farmer in Suffolk, has been committed for trial, for the *Murder* of a girl named Mary Baker, his servant. He is a married man with three children, but appears to have become violently attached to the girl. On the 31st of July, a fair was held in the village of Thrandstone, near which Mickleburgh lived, and Mary Baker obtained leave to go to it, accompanied by her sister, a married woman named French. They were joined by a young man, named Boatman, who was considered to be the girl's sweetheart. Mickleburgh having learned where she had gone, also visited the fair. He found her, followed her about, and seemed highly incensed at her talking with Boatman. Wishing, however, to conceal his feeling from Boatman, he invited him with the girl into a booth, where he treated him to brandy and water and wine, apparently with a view of rendering him intoxicated, and so obtaining possession of the girl. Boatman, however, resisted his entreaties, and between six and seven o'clock left the booth in company with Mary Baker. Before quitting, Mickleburgh asked the girl what time her mistress expected her home. She replied, "About half-past nine o'clock;" and, after they had gone, Mrs. French followed them, leaving her husband drinking with Mickleburgh. Some time elapsing, and French not coming home, his wife returned to the booth, where she waited until they came out. Mickleburgh addressed her saying, "Tell Mary to get home by nine o'clock. I will be in the meadow just before nine, as I want to see her." He appeared much excited, and she understood that if the girl did not meet him he would be revenged. He parted with

them, and went in another direction of the fair, while Mrs. French and her husband proceeded to a public-house where the girl and Boatman were regaling themselves. Within a short time of Mickelburgh parting with the Frenches he went to the stall of a hawk in the fair and purchased a stiletto knife, with a blade some for four or five inches in length and protected by a spring back. In the course of the next half hour he visited the house where Mary Baker was. There was a sort of village frolic going on, and all were enjoying themselves, the company amounting to about forty or fifty people. What followed will be best gathered from the unfortunate girl's own statement, which was taken by a magistrate shortly after she had received the fatal injury. She said: "I was sitting in this house alongside of William Boatman, with whom I had been keeping company, and my sister, Clara French. About eight o'clock in the evening my master came in, exclaiming, 'Ah! Mary, I see you.' I made no reply, nor did I observe anything in his manner to excite alarm. He left the room immediately, and returned in about two minutes, and without saying a word he came up to where I was sitting and plunged a large knife in my side. I did not feel it until he drew the knife out, when he said, 'Now, Mary, you have it now.' I saw the knife in his hand. Boatman was sitting by my side all the time. I recollect nothing more until I found myself up stairs in bed. I solemnly declare there has been nothing improper between me and Mr. Mickelburgh." Most of the persons in the room witnessed the occurrence. He was instantly seized. He offered not the slightest resistance, nor did he evince the least emotion at the fearful act he had committed. He said that he had had his revenge, and all he regretted was that his arm had not been stronger. The poor girl expired a few hours afterwards.

On the 20th; a dreadful case of *Attempted Murder and Suicide* took place at Tottenham. A German, named Carl Raegelaek, said to be of a highly respectable family, came to England some twelve months since, with a recommendation to Mr. Broad, clerk in a bank in Lombard Street, and has since resided in that gentleman's family. He is said to have had an attachment for Miss Broad, whose father, however, objected to their union on account of the disparity of their age, and of the German having, on several occasions, evinced symptoms of a disordered mind. About three months since he disappeared from home in an extraordinary manner, and nothing was heard of him for a considerable time, until at length he wrote from Liverpool to Mr. Broad, who went to that place and brought him back. On the day above mentioned, after having been in London during the day, he returned about eight o'clock in the evening to Tottenham, and had scarcely entered the house when screams of "Murder" were heard, and immediately afterwards Miss Broad and her mother, who were alone in the house, ran out bleeding from various wounds. Mr. Ryan, the railway station master, having entered the place, found Carl Raegelaek lying dead in the parlour, and a dagger, covered with blood, lying beside him. It appeared that he had attacked Miss Broad with the dagger, inflicted a slight stab upon her body, and a more serious wound upon her hand, with which she had endeavoured to ward off the blow; and her mother, on hastening to her assistance, hearing her cry out, was attacked, and received a stab in the chest. The two ladies then ran out, and fell fainting in the road; and Raegelaek, turning the weapon against himself, plunged it nearly to the hilt into his abdomen five or six times, and terminated his existence in less than two minutes. Mrs. Broad and her daughter were placed under the care of a surgeon, and it was happily discovered that their wounds were not mortal.

At the Liverpool assizes, on the 21st, Mr. Booker, a surveyor at Manchester, obtained a *Verdict, with 1500*l.** Damages against the Birkenhead, Lancashire, and Cheshire Railway Company. He was one of the persons injured in the Cheshire Tunnel, on the return from the Chester races in April last, when, it will be remembered, a passenger train, having come to a stand from want of sufficient locomotive power, was run into by a following train, and many persons were killed and seriously hurt. One of his legs was dreadfully fractured, his left arm

was broken, and he had received other injuries, from the effects of which he was still laid upon his back in bed, from which he could not be moved though the accident had happened so long ago. The judge expressed his opinion that sufficient care had not been taken by the railway company to guard against accidents when a large increase of traffic was likely to take place; and the jury, without leaving the box, found the above verdict.

In a trial at the central criminal court on the 21st, Mr. Justice Erle made some remarks on the *Treatment of Witnesses by Counsel*. Two labourers, named Best and Kelly, were indicted for assault and robbery. A witness for the prosecution, named Appleton, was severely cross-examined by the prisoners' counsel, who put many questions respecting his way of gaining his livelihood for a long period, with the view of throwing discredit upon his evidence; and afterwards, in addressing the jury, the counsel attacked the witness with great severity, and called upon the jury to place no reliance on his testimony. In summing up, the learned judge remarked, that the privilege enjoyed by an advocate of cross-examining witnesses to any extent, and of commenting upon their demeanour and character, in the same manner, was undoubtedly very valuable when it was exercised in a conscientious and fair manner, and with a view to advance the interests of truth and justice; but, when witnesses were attacked in the manner Appleton had been in this case, without, as it appeared, there being any grounds for it, the privilege was turned into a most pernicious nuisance. The prisoners were found guilty.

A singular case of *Assault* was tried at the Chester assizes. The plaintiff was Ralph Hulse, a small freeholder; the defendant, Mr. William Spencer Tollemache, brother of the member for the county. Mr. Tollemache had horsewhipped Hulse, though without doing him much injury. But it appeared that Hulse had for a long time been annoying Miss Tomkinson, sister to Mr. Tollemache's wife: he persecuted her with letters offering love, laylaid her out of doors, planted himself opposite her at church in order to stare at her, make grimaces at her, and threw kisses to her. He received not the slightest encouragement, only evidences of fear and disgust. As the law gave no remedy, Mr. Tollemache was impelled to administer what he thought was preventive justice. The evidence was very laughable in some parts, and far from creditable to the plaintiff and his attorney. Mr. Justice Wightman left it to the jury to assess the damages for the assault upon a consideration of the circumstances provoking it. They gave one farthing, and requested the judge not to certify for costs. The decision was met with a burst of cheering.

At the Liverpool assizes, last week, Thomas Williamson and Thomas Egerton were tried for the *Manslaughter* of nine persons at Manchester. Williamson was proprietor of a circular saw-mill; Egerton had charge of the steam-engine and boiler. In March last, the boiler burst, and nine persons were killed. The evidence adduced showed that the disaster was the result of neglect and mismanagement: the water was permitted to get too low in the boiler, and there was a great pressure on the safety-valve; a large fire was continued under the boiler while the engine was not at work; part of the boiler became red-hot, steam at a vast pressure was engendered, and the boiler was torn asunder. The boiler was a sufficient one if it had been properly treated. Mr. Williamson had been dissatisfied with the engineer, and purposed superseding him. Ray, the man who was to succeed him, examined the boiler on the day of the explosion, and told Egerton the boiler was nearly empty of water: Egerton retorted, that Ray had nothing to do with it; Ray thereupon left the premises, and in five minutes the explosion occurred. At the conclusion of the evidence, Mr. Baron Platt expressed an opinion that there was nothing to prove criminality on the part of Williamson; and he was acquitted. Egerton's counsel contended, that the defective state of the boiler, not the man's negligence, caused the accident. The jury returned a verdict of guilty. The judge said that in all cases of negligence on the part of persons having charge of engines and machinery, where fatal results ensued, the courts were

determined to pass very severe sentences in future. But in this case, the punishment was six months' imprisonment, without hard labour.

At Guildhall, on the 23d, Margaret Raymond was charged with *Throwing her Son, a Child of six years old, from a third-floor window* in San Court, Golden Lane. The charge was proved by several witnesses. The child fell on his head, which was much injured, but the skull was not fractured. Mary Ann Regan, an intelligent girl, aged 11, deposed that she lived in the house, and was looking through the second-floor window. She saw the prisoner holding the child out of the upper window. He exclaimed "Oh, mother, don't chuck me out!" The mother then took him by the heels and dropped him out of the window. At the same time a little girl in the mother's room exclaimed, "Oh, mother, don't throw him out." The prisoner was committed for trial. She subsequently admitted that she had wanted the boy's boots in order to sell them for gin.

At the Greenwich Police Court, on the 9th, Lord Ranelagh was charged with *Assaulting two Railway Officers* and obstructing them in the discharge of their duty. Many witnesses were examined on both sides. It appeared that Lord Ranelagh had been dining at Greenwich with a party of friends, and had come to the railway station in order to return to town. There was a great crowd, and the railway officers were attempting, by closing the door, to prevent the people from entering too rapidly. Lord Ranelagh, who had a lady on his arm, endeavoured to keep the door open and to press forward, and a scuffle ensued with the officers. The parties mutually charged each other with violent conduct and abusive language, but the evidence as to this was contradictory. The magistrate, Mr. Secker, inquired if all Lord Ranelagh's party had tickets; and was informed that they had. The magistrate's decision was that the railway men were *not* in the execution of their duty; Lord Ranelagh and his party had received tickets, had passed the outer barrier, and had a right to expect that they could proceed to the platform to enter the train: Mr. Secker therefore dismissed the complaint. The case has been brought by the railway company before the central criminal court, and Lord Ranelagh held to bail for his appearance to take his trial.—A counter-charge, made by Lord Ranelagh against the railway officers, was sent by the Greenwich magistrate to be tried at the sessions.

At Clerkenwell police court, on the 23d, Thomas Ledger, master of the national school in Agar Town, was charged with *Assaulting one of his Pupils*, 12 years of age, named Philip Wheaton. The boy's back was bared in court, and a number of black and blue marks were visible. It appeared in evidence that the school-master first gave him two cuts across his hand, and afterwards caned him, no one else being present, at the same time holding him up with one hand until the weapon split. He then got another cane, and then held him with his face downwards, and, putting his foot upon him, flogged him for a considerable time, when a gentleman and some of the boys, who had heard his screams, came to the door, and he was permitted to crawl away. The schoolmaster said that the complainant was an obstinate and wicked boy, and he punished him for making a noise and snapping his fingers while the school was at prayers. He denied using two canes, and called two of the boys, who on oath corroborated his statement. The magistrate was of opinion that the case ought to end there, for no great harm had been done. He would repeat what he had often said, that he had seen punishments far more severe inflicted in the school where he was brought up upon some of the first noblemen now living, clergymen, naval and military officers, and others of very high standing, who never flinched from it, but took it manfully and in good part, knowing they had deserved it, and that it was necessary for the character and dignity of the establishment; that such a discipline was actually necessary; "and without it," emphatically exclaimed the worthy magistrate, "what would have become of our army and navy? Why, instead of a brave and manly race, we should have had a set of cowards and runaways." The father said that undue severity had been exercised, and he was desirous that defendant should be tried

before a jury. The school-master was accordingly committed for trial at the next Middlesex sessions, and bail was taken for his appearance.

At the Worship Street police court, on the 13th, Angus Brown, John Wright, and James Mc'Cormack, soldiers of the Royal Horse Artillery, were charged with an *Infamous Outrage* on Miss Harrison, the daughter of a respectable farmer in Norfolk. The young lady had come with some friends to town for to see the Exhibition, and was residing in the house of Mr. Syers, a tavern-keeper in Shoreditch. She gave the following evidence: "At half-past eleven last night I went to bed in the back room on the second floor. I had not been asleep more than two hours when I became sensible that some other person was present, and upon thoroughly awaking found a man in my bed lying by my side, with one of his arms round my neck, and totally undressed, with the exception of his shirt. This man I can positively swear was the prisoner Brown, whom I had seen, previous to retiring to rest, in the public parlour of the house to which he had come in the course of the evening, and I heard him ask if he could be accommodated with beds for three. When I awoke and found his arm round my neck in the manner I have described, I also saw another man standing at the foot of the bed, who had on dark trowsers, but no coat. He was one of the other two prisoners, but which I cannot say, but I distinctly saw that he had military trowsers on. I was dreadfully terrified, and screamed loudly, and entreating the men for God's sake not to hurt me, sprang out of bed as rapidly as I could. The prisoner Brown leapt out of bed at the same time, and, running to one of the closets in the room, closed the door, and endeavoured to conceal himself. Mr. Syers, who had been alarmed by my screams, at that moment hastened into the room to my assistance, followed by his wife, and Mrs. Syers suspecting somebody was concealed there, went to the closet, and finding Brown standing there upon some steps, seized him firmly by one of his legs, exclaiming, 'Come out, you villain!' and the prisoner did so. Mr. Syers in the meantime returned to the room and secured Brown, expressing his determination to hold him until the police came, and hearing one of the other two prisoners, who were also present, privately exclaim to his companions, 'We are three to one; let us kill the——,' I hurried out of the room during the struggle which ensued between them, and running in my fright to the bedroom of the witness Collins, concealed myself there in my nightclothes under the bed until the police had effected an entrance and secured the soldiers. The witness added, that she had had no conversation whatever with either of the prisoners previous to the commission of the outrage, and the only time she had been nigh them was once when she handed them some beer at the request of the servant, who was otherwise engaged." The young lady's evidence was corroborated by Mr. Collins, a gentleman of Birmingham, and by Mr. Syers, who corroborated the young lady's evidence, and showed marks of great violence he had suffered from the ruffians. The prisoners expressed great contrition, and Brown, crying convulsively, entreated the magistrate not to ruin them by sending them to trial. Miss Harrison herself seconded this appeal, and the magistrate, in consequence of it, and in consideration of the principal witnesses residing at such distances as Birmingham and Norfolk, did not commit the prisoners, but fined Brown 10*l.* for his assaults on Miss Harrison and Mr. Syers, and the other prisoners 5*l.* each; in default of payment to be sent for two months to the House of Correction.

NARRATIVE OF ACCIDENT AND DISASTER.

A SHOCKING case of *Premature Burial* has taken place at Tipperary. Mary Neill, a young woman, apparently died on the 3rd inst. in the poor house, and was buried next day. On the morning of the 5th a man heard her cry as he passed close to her grave, and he ran as rapidly as possible to town, and gave the alarm. She was disinterred; and on opening her coffin, she was found lying on

her right side, the shrouding torn, a cap which she wore on her head removed, and scratches and blood on her face, and other marks of recent violent exertion apparent, but she was quite dead. Her apparent death previously was sudden, but it is believed she was only sunk in a trance. She had been above twenty-four hours apparently dead previous to her interment.

Another frightful *Balloon Accident* took place on the 4th inst, when Madame Garneron ascended from Batty's Hippodrome at Kensington. Six o'clock was the time appointed for the ascent, but in consequence of some little difficulty about the inflation, it did not take place till near seven. The wind was rather strong, and blowing south-west, and the moment the machine was released from its moorings, it rose very heavily, and barely cleared the circus enclosure. Madame Garneron immediately emptied a bag of ballast among a crowd who were watching it in Victoria Road, but before she was able to discharge another, the car of the balloon struck a projecting garret window, and in an instant the poor lady was seen with her feet entangled in the netting at the side of the half-inverted car, and hanging out of it with her head downwards. A loud exclamation of horror burst from the frightened crowd, and just at the critical moment, when they expected to see the balloon rise with its occupant in that fearful situation, the netting caught in a stack of chimneys, the balloon at once collapsed with the shock, and in a few seconds it was hanging helplessly flapping over the house-side into the garden, while the unfortunate lady was left lying on the roof. But she had received no injury, and after she had recovered from her faintness, she stood up and feebly waved her acknowledgments to the spectators below, who had hailed her safety with loud cheers.

A number of *Railway Accidents* are recorded in the newspapers. An excursion train on the *Great Western Railway* was run into near Bath, on the morning of the 10th, while on its return from London. In Brislington tunnel the engine from some cause broke down; while the train was stationary, an engine and tender from Bath ran into it. Though no limbs were broken, several persons suffered from cuts and bruises, and a lady's knee-cap was fractured. The driver and stoker of the engine that did the mischief were charged before the magistrates of Bristol with negligence. They pleaded guilty, but made some excuses in mitigation of punishment. They were both fined, with the alternative of imprisonment in default of payment.

Two accidents have occurred on the *East Lancashire Railway* at Liverpool. A man who was signalling a train at night to proceed more slowly, so miscalculated the distance of the engine, that he was knocked down and crushed to death. The other disaster exhibits the most culpable negligence. Part of a bridge had been removed, to make the crown of the arch higher for street traffic; a luggage-train came up at night, the driver of which knew nothing about the chasm that had been made in the railway; a light was exhibited, but he saw it too late to stop the train, and the engine and a number of waggons fell through the aperture. The fireman escaped by scrambling over the waggons in the rear; but the driver was dangerously hurt.

The shepherd of a farmer at Stevenon, Berkshire, near the Didcot station on the *Great Western Railway*, was driving a flock of sheep across the line between Denchworth Bridge and the Faringdon Road station. He had driven the sheep through the gateway on to the line, but had not taken the precaution to open the gate on the opposite side to let the sheep pass through; and the consequence was, that a train coming up at the time ran into the flock, and killed forty-seven sheep, as well as the shepherd's dog. The line presented an extraordinary scene of slaughter, and the cries of the wounded sheep were piteous in the extreme. No blame was attached to the engine-driver, as it was impossible to check the engine in time to prevent this wholesale destruction.

An alarming accident happened on the *South-Eastern Railway* on the 12th, when the train, crowded with foreign visitors to the Exhibition was leaving Folkestone. From the harbour a very steep curved branch leads to the main line on the upper cliff, having been made to save passengers the trouble of getting into an

omnibus in passing from the railway to the steamboats. On starting up this incline with a very heavy train, the coupling of the engine gave way, and the whole of the train was precipitated down the incline. The engine-man instantly signalled the guards, and the breaks were put on, but the velocity of the train momentarily increased, for it was impossible for any break to bring up suddenly or effectively on a line so short and steep, and the train dashed on under the shed. Here some of the attendants and workmen threw on to the rails planks and timbers which were at hand, which stayed the velocity and substituted a moderate concussion for a violent one. So great, however, was the momentum of the train at this time that, on arriving at the end buffers, the last carriage was precipitated over the cliff on to the shore below, fortunately containing luggage and no passengers, and the tide being out. On the first shock the passengers forced the doors, and many rushed out in the greatest terror, some having the appearance of being severely wounded, and their faces covered with blood. Only seven or eight persons, however, were severely cut, though few escaped unbruised. None of the injuries required medical attendance, and all the passengers were able to proceed when the train was ready.

A calamitous *Colliery Explosion* took place on the 18th, at Washington Colliery, near the Washington Station on the York, Newcastle, and Berwick Railway. In the afternoon of that day about 60 men went down into the pit on the night shift. A little before midnight the inhabitants of the neighbourhood were aroused by a loud explosion. Unfortunately the resident viewer, Mr. Cruddace, was absent, and no person being left to act for him in his absence, the scene became one of the greatest confusion. The head over-man was at length aroused, and he, in company with a few of the miners, descended the pit, and found several dead bodies very much burnt and mutilated near the cross-cut way, where it is supposed the pit was fired. They discovered that the explosion took place in the "whole" workings, where about 40 men were employed, and that the other 20 men, who had been working in the "brokings" were uninjured. No language can describe the intense grief and horror of those who, on the first report being given, rushed to the spot, and remained to witness the blackened and disfigured corpses of their husbands, children, and fathers. Three hours passed away before any of the bodies were brought up. Almost immediately after the explosion took place, two furnace-men, desirous of being instrumental in saving the lives of their comrades, went down to render assistance, but the afterdamp was so strong that they were brought up again almost dead, and both of them have since died. In the course of the following day the corpses of the people who had perished were brought up—thirty-five men and boys. A coroner's inquest on the bodies was commenced on the 20th, and adjourned for a week. From the evidence already reported, it appears that the pit was badly ventilated, and that Bell, the under-viewer, who had been left in charge of the pit during the absence of his superior, had been drinking on the evening of the accident.

Another *Fatal Accident* happened at Bedminster, in the Malago Vale Colliery, on the 9th. While four men and a boy were descending the shaft in a bucket—the depth 240 fathoms—the rope broke near the top, the bucket having nearly reached the bottom; and the mass, six inches and a half wide by two inches thick, and weighing three tons, together with the iron bonnet or shield, fell upon the unfortunate people, crushing them to death. A long time elapsed before ropes of sufficient length and of the proper construction could be borrowed to descend the shaft. In the mean time there was great grief and anxiety at the mouth of the shaft; and one old man, whose son was in the bucket, was so excited and alarmed that he fell down dead. The fall of the bucket and shield damaged one of the "trunks" of the shaft, and it was feared that eight men who were in the workings might be in danger; but they did not suffer. An inquest was held on the bodies of the sufferers, and terminated on the 15th. It appeared from the evidence, that the rope, originally not strong enough, had not been sufficiently examined while in use, and that the miners had complained to the manager of the

insecurity of the rope, though intimidation had been used to prevent such complaints. The jury delivered a verdict of manslaughter, whereupon Moses Gilderoy Stewart, the manager of the works, and Henry Pillinger, the bailiff. They were at once committed for trial.

A little boy was killed on the 15th, in the belfry of St. Mary's Church, Monmouth, while the bells were ringing in honour of the judges opening the commission. One of the ringers, named Jones, found that something obstructed the machinery. He went up to ascertain the cause; and when he was horrified to discover the mangled body of his younger brother under the bell. The upper portion of the face and skull was completely shattered in, and the back part of the head was cloven in two, and the brains bespattered the roof. The dreadful calamity which befel the poor little fellow was the consequence of his dangerous curiosity. He must have introduced his head into the bell, which he was doubtless viewing just at the moment his brother raised it, and his death immediately followed.

SOCIAL, SANITARY, AND MUNICIPAL PROGRESS.

The following statistical facts respecting the *Census* are taken from a document prepared by the commissioners. In this important paper there are tables of the population and houses in the divisions, registration counties, and districts of England and Wales; in the counties, cities, and burghs of Scotland; and in the islands in the British seas. It is now shown that, during the last half century, the population of Great Britain has, within a very little, doubled itself; the numbers being, at the beginning of the century, 10,567,893; and now, exclusive of the army, navy, and merchant seamen out of the country when the census was taken, 20,936,468. In 1811, the per-centage of persons engaged in agricultural occupations in Bedfordshire was 63; in Rutland, 56.9; in Suffolk, 55; in Bucks, 53; in the North Riding, 46; at a time when the agricultural population of Middlesex was little more than 4 per cent. Up to the present year, from the beginning of this century, the annual rate of increase throughout England and Wales has been 1.47, nearly $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.; but, during this interval, these counties have increased their population only at the following rates: Bedfordshire, .36; Rutland, .57; Suffolk, .90; Bucks, .81; and the North Riding, .55. The West Riding has augmented its population from 576,336, in 1801, to 1,339,313, being an increase of 762,977. In 1841, the population of Buckinghamshire was 14,239, and is now increased by only 173, being at present 14,412. Lewes, in Sussex, is an instance of a nearly stationary population, the numbers being 24,316 in 1841, and now 25,713, an increase of only 897. This symptom of failing power appears the more remarkable by contrast with its vigorous neighbour and successful rival. It was formerly "Brighton, near Lewes;" it is now "Lewes, near Brighton." Brighton, ten years ago, had 8,137 houses—it now numbers 10,301; it had then 1,095 uninhabited houses—it has now only 471; it had then 53 houses building—it has now 285; the population in 1841, was 46,061—it is now 65,572, an increase of 18,911. Another instance of a county town indeed of a city, declining in population, is presented in Canterbury, the population of which is now 906 less than it was in 1841, being at that time 15,003, and now only 14,097. This case is more remarkable than that of Buckingham and Lewes, where there was only a defective increase, whereas in the case of Canterbury there is a positive decrease, approaching to 1,000. Passing from agricultural to manufacturing districts, the signs of healthful increase at once meet our view. The most remarkable instance of this in the whole country is that of Monmouthshire, in which county the numbers have risen from 16,776 in 1841, to 19,157 in 1851, the rate of increase being 2.37 per annum, nearly $\frac{2}{3}$ per cent. Turning to our large manufacturing counties, we look for those which, at the last census, were distinguished by the proportion employed in various branches of manufacture, and which, according to the occupation returns of that period, stood in the following order,

which shows how many persons in every 100 were engaged in manufactures and trade: Lancashire, 62.9; West Riding, 61.1; Cheshire, 52.9; Nottinghamshire, 51.1; Leicestershire, 48.9; Staffordshire, 47.5; Derbyshire, 46.3; Worcestershire, 41.7. Keeping in mind, as a sort of rule by which to measure these counties, that 1.41 is the rate of increase to the whole country, we find that the increase has been, from 1841 to 1851, in Lancashire, 360,420; West Riding, 162,799; Cheshire, 54,592; Nottinghamshire, 23,702; Leicestershire, 14,634; Staffordshire, 101,639; Derbyshire, 20,916; Worcestershire, 28,375. It is obvious, on inspection, that except where particular causes have operated against some of the manufacturing districts, the aggregate increase of the country has been supplied by the fact that the manufacturing counties have compensated for the defective increase in agricultural districts.

A parliamentary return shows the vast increase of the business of the *Post-Office*. In 1839, the number of letters that passed through the Post-Office was 75,907,572; in 1850, 347,069,071. Gross revenue in 1839, 2,339,737*l.*; cost of management, 687,768*l.*: in 1850, revenue, 2,264,634*l.*; cost of management, 1,460,785*l.* Last year no less than 400,964*l.* was paid for the conveyance of mails on railways; in 1839, only 1743*l.* The money-order system has vastly extended: in 1840, the number of orders issued was 188,921, for 313,124*l.*; in 1850, the number was 4,339,713, and the amount 8,494,498*l.*

A statistical table has been published, showing the great changes which the *Introduction of Railways* has produced in the population of towns. The rapid advance made by those on lines of rail, compared with the decline in the number of those between or far away from railways, is very striking. The towns where the decrease is most obvious are South Molton, Honiton, Axminster, Shaftesbury, Wem, and Epping. The towns in which the greatest increase has taken place are Birmingham, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Carlisle, Swansea, Great Grimsby, Ipswich, and Leeds.

A series of *Fêtes* has taken place at Paris, given by the Prefect of the Seine to the Corporation of London, the Royal Commissioners and other parties connected with the management of the Great Exhibition, and great numbers of persons have had special invitations. On the morning of the 1st of August, the English guests started by railway for Paris. They were splendidly entertained during their short stay at Boulogne, and arrived at Paris the same night. Next day a magnificent entertainment was given at the Hotel de Ville by the municipality of Paris. The company numbered about 500; including the Lord Mayor, Recorder, Aldermen and Sheriffs of London; Lord Granville the Vice-President, and the members of the Royal Commission, among whom were the Mayors of Dublin, Manchester, Birmingham, and Leeds, and the Lord Provost of Glasgow; M. Dupin, the President, and many members of the Assembly; the Archbishop of Paris, the Judges, the Corps Diplomatique, the members of the Institute and other learned associations; and a number of the provincial magistrates. There was much speaking after dinner; the two countries vying with each other in the expressing of cordial feeling. The speech which made the greatest impression was that of Lord Granville in giving, as a toast, the prosperity of the City of Paris. It was delivered in excellent French, and was remarkable for liberality of sentiment gracefully expressed. M. Lanquetin the President of the Municipal Council, in an eloquent speech, proposed a toast to the city and municipality of London, which was acknowledged, in English, by the Lord Mayor. The evening finished with the performance of Molière's *Medecin malgré Lui* and a grand Concert. On the 3d (Sunday), there was an excursion to Versailles, where the celebrated fountains were made to play for the gratification of the visitors. On Monday there was a grand *fête* at St. Cloud, where there was much magnificence and a good deal of confusion. After the day had been spent in promenading in the beautiful grounds, the President entertained about thirty of the principal guests in his private apartments, whilst the doors of the "Orangerie" were thrown open, and the great body of visitors admitted to partake of such refreshments as

they might chance to reach. The scramble and crowding were terrific, and those who were first served were a large body of French officers, who took the place by storm—and not only took but kept possession of it, to the total exclusion of their English guests. As for the ladies, they did not get a sight of the refreshment tables, and were obliged to be content with a bottle or two of wine and a few cakes handed over the heads of the crowd and out at the windows. A bright exception must be made in the case of some officers of more advanced years, and evidently of high rank, who, seeing English ladies almost fainting at the entrances, remembered the gallantry of Old France, and actively employed themselves in succouring their fair guests from across the Channel. The cool evening air tempted a renewal of the promenade, which was continued until about nine o'clock, when the company departed to fill the trains, the *voitures*, and the *chairs-à-banc* in which they had crowded to the *fête* in the morning. On the route to the station, the little town was observed to be all alive. The *cafés* were all full, the streets were crowded with tables, and refreshments, although of inferior quality, circulated freely among the visitors, who had not succeeded in obtaining any at the *fête*.

On Tuesday the 5th, there was a grand reception at the British Embassy, and in the evening a ball at the Hotel de Ville. The saloons were most splendidly decorated, and, when the ball was at its height, were filled by nearly eight thousand people. The President of the Republic walked through the saloons with M. Berger, the Prefect of the Seine, Lord Normanby, the Lord Mayor, and several of the ministers. The various uniforms gave an interesting and uncommon appearance to the ball. There were French and English officers of all grades, both of the army and navy, and many Prussian, Turkish, and Greek officers. A large number of English gentlemen were in court dresses. In spite of the crowd there was a great deal of dancing. French and English seemed completely blended together, and probably on no former occasion was there such a fusion between the two countries on so large a scale. On Wednesday there was a great military display in the Champ de Mars, consisting of a sham fight between two bodies of troops which might be called large armies on either side. In the evening the whole of the English guests attended the grand opera, where a *pièce de circonstance*, written in honour of Great Britain, with music by Adolphe Adam, was performed. It was a tasteful and well-imagined trifle, of two acts, the principal being one of the Crystal Palace. There was no attempt, of course, at a plot of any kind; but the evolutions of the *corps de ballet*, the variety and brilliancy of the costumes, and, above all, the scene of the "Paxton Palace," with which the allegory concludes, secured it a favourable reception. The President, the British Ambassador, and several of the ministers were present. The *fêtes* terminated on Wednesday; but on Thursday the President received the Lord Mayor on a special visit, and the interview is said to have been very gratifying. On Friday morning, the Lord Mayor waited on the municipality sitting at the Hotel-de-Ville; and, through his secretary, thanked them for the cordial hospitality shown both to himself and his countrymen. He then took his departure by the Great Northern Railway, and arrived at the Mansion House on Saturday morning.

Victoria Street has now been opened to the public. It runs from the front of Westminster Abbey to Vauxhall Bridge Road, Pimlico; and provides a direct line of road due West from the houses of Parliament to Belgravia. The width of the street is eighty feet. For the accommodation of the families expelled by the improvements, model lodgings are to be erected in it; and also a line of comfortable dwelling-houses, arranged on the Scotch and Continental plan, in "flats." The opening was celebrated by divine service in Westminster Abbey, followed by a procession and a dejeuner, attended by many persons of note, among whom were the Earl of Carlisle, Sir R. Inglis, Sir De Lacy Evans, the Earl of Shaftesbury, Dr. Southwood Smith, and the Rev. D. Wordsworth. Sir Edwin Pearson, the chief commissioner, was in the chair. Complimentary toasts were drunk. In responding to his own health, the Earl of

Carlisle observed, that "the area down which the procession had that morning moved was formerly infested with the worst holes of filthiness and impurity: henceforth, he hoped, its noble frontage was destined to be the abode of industry, comfort, refinement, education, charity, and piety." Alluding to the brigade of shoe-blacks who do duty in our streets, the Earl of Shaftesbury stated that "they earned 26*l.* a week; one-third of which was devoted to liquidate expenses, one-third was placed in the savings-bank, and the remaining third was given to the boys themselves. One of these little shoe-blacks had saved so much money in this manner, since the month of May, that he was enabled to determine upon removing to Australia."

A very gratifying meeting took place on the 2d inst., at Messrs. Gardner and Bazley's cotton-factory at Halliwell, near Bolton. The children taught in the schools founded by the firm were examined, and then a thousand workpeople sat down to tea, in the company of their employers and several guests, in the spacious "lecture-room." Toasts were heartily responded to, and the workmen's band enlivened the proceedings with music. The schools, with library and news-room, were erected by the partners at an expense of upwards of 5000*l.*

A grand dinner was given to Mr. Paxton, at Derby, on the 5th, at which nearly 300 of the most influential gentlemen of the county were present. The Duke of Devonshire accepted a special invitation and was loudly cheered on his entrance and during various parts of the proceeding. T. Gisborne, Esq., occupied the chair. The Duke of Devonshire, in acknowledging the warmth with which the toast of his health was received, eulogised the merits of Mr. Paxton as the architect of the Crystal Palace, and concluded by saying: "The Crystal Palace has had a respite, and it is to be hoped that its future destiny is secured; and quite sure am I that, should the arrangements and regulations be confided to the inventor, its merits and advantages in a second state would be as striking and as well appreciated as they were in the first." Mr. Paxton's health was afterwards given by the chairman; and, in acknowledging the toast, he gave some interesting details respecting the progress of the building. Mr. Henderson, in returning thanks when the health of Messrs. Fox and Henderson was given, took occasion to correct an erroneous impression that Mr. Barry was the originator of the circular roof for the transept. Mr. Barry had suggested a circular roof; apparently not being aware that the suggestion had already been made, at a meeting of the commissioners, by Mr. Paxton.—Among the toasts of the evening was, "The Guild of Literature and Art." Mr. John Forster, in responding to it, explained the nature of the institution, and acknowledged the princely aid given to it by the Duke of Devonshire.

The closing of the Great Exhibition has been appointed by the Royal Commissioners, to take place on the 11th of October; and the exhibitors will be permitted to remove their goods, subject to such regulations as may be made by the Executive Committee. The receipts, from the opening of the Exhibition to the 22d inst. inclusive, amounted to 405,310*l.* 17*s.* 10*d.*

A numerous and influential meeting of Members of Parliament and merchant citizens of Dublin assembled at the Mansion-house in that city on the 21st inst., Thursday, to consider the best means of securing direct steam communication between North America and the West coast of Ireland. The Lord Mayor presided. It was resolved that a packet station should be established at some western port to be hereafter named; and a provisional committee was chosen to form a company, with a capital of half a million, to build vessels and establish the service.

PERSONAL NARRATIVE.

THE Queen has introduced the custom of paying all tradesmen's bills every three months, instead of allowing them to run on for an indefinite time; and the fashion, it is said, is followed by many of the aristocracy.

Her Majesty has subscribed 100*l.* to the funds of the British Ladies Female Emigrant Society.

On the 15th, the Queen and Prince Albert gave their annual fête in honour of the Prince's birthday, to the labourers and workpeople employed on the estate at Osborne; also to 130 seamen, boys, and Royal Marines of the Royal yachts, to the coastguard men, and to a detachment of the 36th Regiment quartered at East Cowes. A large tent nearly a hundred feet in length, gaily decorated with laurel and flags, was erected on the lawn near the house, opposite to which was pitched a marquee for her Majesty and the Royal family, and tents for the suite and the regimental bands. An excellent and substantial dinner, accompanied with abundance of strong ale, having been placed on the tables, and the party having taken their places, the Queen and Prince Albert, accompanied by the whole of the Royal family, and attended by the suite, proceeded to the tent, the bands playing "God save the Queen," and passed down between the tables. When the dinner was concluded, the usual toasts having been drunk, Her Majesty, his Royal Highness, and the Royal family took their places in the marquee, and the rural sports commenced with a country dance. Cricket, foot-ball, races for prizes, and various amusements were then carried on with great spirit until past seven o'clock, when her Majesty and the Royal family retired.

Lord Colvill of Culross has been elected, at Holyrood, a Representative Peer for Scotland, in room of the late Viscount Strathallan.

Mr. Lewis Charles Tennyson D'Eyncourt, of the Inner Temple, has been appointed a police magistrate of the metropolis, in the room of Mr. Burrell, of the Westminster court, who has resigned.

Professor Liebig, of Giessen, has been decorated with the cross of Commander of the Order of Francis Joseph, for the services he has rendered to the science of chemistry.

Sir David Brewster has been elected foreign corresponding member of the Imperial Academy of Sciences of Vienna.

The late Dr. Lingard has left his valuable library to St. Cuthbert's College, Ushaw.

A Chinese family have arrived in London, attracted by the Great Exhibition. It consists of a gentleman, named Chung-Atai, his two wives, his sister-in-law, and a female attendant. The three ladies possess the exceedingly small feet, constituting the peculiar characteristic of the females of the upper ranks in the Chinese empire. They have visited the Queen at Osborne, by her Majesty's special desire. The junior wife of Chung-Atai had the honour of singing to the Queen, whose well-known proficiency as a musician naturally rendered her Majesty desirous of hearing the unique performance of the Celestial lady. The elder consort of Chung-Atai presented her Majesty with a beautifully executed daguerreotype, by Beard, of the interesting Chinese group; and the younger lady left with the Princess Royal a pair of very handsome lady's shoes, embroidered in gold by herself, and the exact size worn by her, viz., 2½ inches long by 1 inch broad, both of which offerings were most graciously accepted. Prince Albert thinking the family would be interested in the numerous plants and flowers of Chinese origin abounding in the garden adjoining the drawing-room, conducted his visitors round the terrace and parterres, her Majesty and the Royal children being much amused at the helpless mode of walking of the ladies, the contortion of their feet effectually preventing any pedestrian exercises beyond a very short walk. After many kind attentions from their royal hosts, the strangers departed, much gratified with their reception.

The Paris papers contain interesting accounts of a *Female Military Knight* whose name stands at the head of a new list of Chevaliers of the Legion of Honour, gazetted in the "Moniteur." The lady is widow Brulon, at present an officer in the Invalides, where she has lived for the last fifty-two years, enjoying the esteem and veneration of her companions in arms. The Widow Brulon was the daughter, sister, and wife of military men, who died in active service in the army of Italy. Her father served thirty-eight years without interruption, from 1757 to 1795; her two brothers were killed on the field of battle in Italy; and her husband died at Ajaccio in 1791, after seven years' service. In 1792, at the age of twenty-one, she entered the forty-second regiment of Infantry, in which her husband died, and where her father still served; and made herself so remarkable by her honourable conduct, both as a woman and a soldier, that she was permitted to continue in the service notwithstanding her sex. She was attached to that regiment for seven years, (from 1792 to 1799,) and performed seven campaigns, under the nom de guerre of 'Liberte,' as private soldier, corporal, sergeant, and sergeant-major. In 1794 she commanded a detachment of her regiment, and repulsed an attack upon the fort of Gescio; on which occasion she was wounded in each arm. Afterwards at the siege of Calvi, she received so severe a wound in the left leg, that she was disabled; and on the 24th Frimaire 1799, she was admitted into the hospital of the Invalides. She received from Louis XVIII. an officer's commission, in these words—"This day, October 2, 1822, the King being in Paris having full confidence in the valour, good conduct, and fidelity of Madame Angélique-Maria-Joseph Duchemin, Widow Brulon, his Majesty has conferred upon her the honorary title of Sub-Lieutenant of Invalides, to take rank from this day. His Majesty desires that his general and other officers to whom it may appertain will recognize Madame Duchemin, Widow Brulon, in this capacity. Lieutenant Widow Brulon, Chevalier of the Legion of Honour, is now eighty years old.

Obituary of Notable Persons.

MR. D. R. ROSS, Lieutenant-Governor of Tobago, lost his life by an accident on the 27th of June. He had been present at a ball in honour of the coronation of the Queen, and started for his home at about two in the morning, in a gig, with his servant sitting beside him. The night was very dark, and the way precipitous. At about a quarter of a mile from Government House, the road is narrow, with a high bank on one side and a steep descent of some thirty feet deep on the other side. To avoid the precipice, the gig was guided too near to the high bank on the other side of the road, and was thus overturned and sent over the precipice. Mr. Ross fell upon some rocks, and was killed on the spot; but, by a great marvel, the servant, the horse, and the gig, were wholly uninjured. Mr. Ross had held his office about three months.

Mrs. HARRIETT LEE, the celebrated author of the "Canterbury Tales" and other works of great literary merit, died at her house at Clifton on the 1st inst., at the age of 95.

LADY LOTTISA STRAET, the youngest daughter of John, third Earl of Bute, the favourite and First Minister of George III., died at her residence in Gloucester place on the 4th inst., within ten days of the completion of her 94th year.

MAJOR-GENERAL W. RIDDALL, K.C.B., died at Southsea on the 28th ult., at the age of 76.

THE EARL OF CLARE died on the 18th, at Brighton, in his 59th year.

ADMIRAL SIR HARRY HEATHCOTE died at Jugonville, near Havre, on the 16th, in his 74th year.

JOHN GIBBONS, Esq., well known in the world of art as a great patron and encourager of modern British genius, died at his residence in Hanover terrace, Regent's park, on the 15th inst., aged 73.

COLONIES AND DEPENDENCIES.

LORD DALHOUSIE'S determination to give immediate practical effect to a threat which has long been suspended over the native prince of the Deccan, and, in part payment of the debt due from the Nizam to the Company, to take possession of a tract of his territory equal in extent to about a third of the whole, and in value considerably less than half the amount due, has a little disturbed the now ordinarily quiet current of affairs in India. But it is more talked about in the papers than it would have been at a more busy season,

and there is no reason to apprehend consequences from it other than have attended those similar movements against the misgoverned native territories which have been matters of course in our eastern empire for the last three quarters of a century. From South Africa the most recent mail has not brought very favourable tidings. The barbarians do not seem to have lost any strength, and Sir Harry Smith still stands on the defensive. This kind of no news is very bad news, in the particular circumstances of the case; for mere suspense puts every interest in the colony to hazard, and nothing can exceed the confusion, disaffection, and distress, which everywhere prevail.

The following are the principal articles of intelligence brought by the last *Overland Mail* :—The Punjab was tranquil; and the Governor-General had directed the release of seventy-two political prisoners. Jewan Singh, a noted Sikh officer in the British service, was killed at Umritsir on the 10th June; cut down in the guard-house, by an European soldier who was confined there for absence from his regiment without leave. Jewan Singh had kept his regiment faithful throughout the late war and since the annexation of the Punjab: for this he had received triple pay, a sword, and a dress of honour. He was popular with his soldiers, and had not the murderer been instantly arrested, serious consequences might have ensued. An attempt has been made by the Bengal military authorities to put a stop to the extravagance of our officers. Returns of expenses have been demanded, with a view to drawing up a code of mess-regulations for the Bengal army. The state allowance to the temple of Juggernaut has been suspended. An anti-missionary movement has begun in Calcutta; and a great meeting of orthodox Hindoos has been held for the purpose of lessening the severity of the penance (wandering forty-eight years as an ascetic) which loss of caste entails by way of expiation. This has been done in favour of converts to Christianity who desire to return to the faith of their fathers. The derangement in the affairs of the Nizam has come to a crisis. It is stated that orders from the Court of Directors to the Governor-General have been received by the Resident at Hyderabad in the Deccan, to take and keep possession of certain parts of the Nizam's dominions unless he repays at once the monies due to the Government of India, amounting to upwards of eighty lacs of rupees, with interest at six per cent. The districts of country about to be absorbed are, it is said, all those on the other side of the Kishna river, Bachore, and Neldroog, besides Berar. The first will be under the superintendence of Captain Bullock, and the last under Mr. Deighton, who once managed the Warrungul districts. A terrible accident occurred at Goindpoore, on the 14th of June. Seventy prisoners, on the road to Hazarebang, had been halted there and chained together in a hut for the night; the hut accidentally took fire, and only five are stated to have escaped with life.

According to the accounts from *Hong Kong*, the rebellion in the southern provinces of China has assumed a magnitude and complexion very alarming to the government. It appears that 5000 picked veterans have been hastily despatched from Canton towards the seat of revolt; that new commanders of the greatest eminence have been sent against the rebels; and that the Emperor is pouring into the state treasury immense contributions from his private wealth to hasten forward the great military measures now in execution for the suppression of the rebels. The *Hong Kong* papers describe the loss of Her Majesty's screw-steamer *Reynard*, Captain Cracroft. The *Reynard* left Hong-kong for England on the 28th of May, with orders to go in the first instance to the Prata Shoals, about a hundred and sixty miles from Hong Kong, and assist her Majesty's brig *Pilot* in rescuing a part of the crew of the wrecked merchant-brig *Velocipede*. The Prata Shoals have been surveyed, but no accurate knowledge has been obtained of the strength and irregularity of the currents prevailing there. During the night of the 30th of May, while the greatest vigilance was exercised, and when, according to all their different means of reckoning, it was supposed that they were at least thirty miles from the point of danger, the *Reynard* struck on the shoals. The sea was smooth, the water deep, and nothing gave the slightest indication of the proximity of danger. All endeavours to get the vessel off failed; and the wind getting up,

with a heavy sea, the vessel soon became bilged and a perfect wreck. Captain, officers, and crew, saved nothing. They passed one night on a raft, and the following day reached the island; and, with the crew of the *Velocipede*, all got safely on board the *Pilot*, which vessel also barely escaped being carried on to the shoals. The *Hong Kong* papers also contain the story of three sailors, Berries, Blake, and Hill, who had just arrived at Shanghai, from the island of Formosa. The American opium-clipper *Antelope*, on her passage to Shanghai, was on the 1st of May lying nearly becalmed off the south point of Formosa, when a boat was observed rowing towards her from the shore with three men in it. The captain, knowing the craft and ferocity of the natives, fired a cannon-ball over their heads: but they still came on; and when they had approached within hail, they were heard to speak in the English language. They were quickly got on board, and found to be the survivors of the *Larpet* of Liverpool, which had left her port for Shanghai on the 18th of May, 1850, with a crew of thirty-one men, commanded by Mr. Gilson. Mr. Bland, a passenger, had acted as third mate. The rescued Englishmen gave a striking narrative of their shipwreck and subsequent adventures. The *Larpet*, they stated, sailed from Liverpool for Shanghai on the 18th of May, 1850, with thirty-one souls on board. On the night of September 12, she struck on a rock; and at two on the following morning it was necessary to abandon her. Captain Gilson, his mate, and six men, got into the starboard quarter boat; while the rest of the crew—twenty-three in all, including the narrators—took to the launch. They found themselves at daybreak close to shore, near a place called Mat-faer, in the island of Formosa. Here they landed, in order to obtain water and caulk the launch; but the natives, coming down in great numbers, plundered them of every movable, so that they were compelled again to put to sea. The two boats then separated. Captain Gilson's party gave out that they should attempt to reach Hong Kong (a distance of more than four hundred miles), and they were soon lost sight of by the heavier-laden launch, which was once more forced, owing to its constant leakage, to be hauled ashore. The crew, of course, took care to land this time at another point; but no sooner were they out of the boat than they found themselves in the midst of a murderous fire of matchlocks. The butchery was frightful. Mr. Bland, a passenger, was the first to fall; and eighteen others shared his fate. Hill and Blake saved themselves by swimming under shelter of a coral rock; Berries, and a man named Harrison found cover under another; and from these hiding places the wretched men saw their comrades massacred and mangled one after another, all their heads being subsequently hacked off and piled together on the beach. The natives at last disappeared. Poor Harrison then swam for a junk which was seen near the spot where they were concealed; but he had scarcely reached it before he was shot and beheaded. Blake and Hill escaped by night to the mountains, fearful of showing themselves: but after five days spent in the agonies of hunger, Blake—who, as he subsequently declared, began to be conscious of the insane yearnings of cannibalism towards his companion—resolved on discovering himself to some villagers who were working in a field. Fortunately, the lives of himself and his comrade were spared; but they were taken into servitude. Berries subsequently joined them. They were sold, at the end of five months, to a new master, and they finally made their escape to the *Antelope*, after a captivity of seven months and sixteen days. What became of Captain Gilson and his party is unknown; but Blake and Hill heard, while in Formosa, that two

white slaves besides themselves were in the island; and this, coupled with the report that the missing party landed near South Cape for water, has led to the conjecture that two at least of their number may yet survive.

The West India mail has brought accounts from *Jamaica* to the 29th ult. The House of Assembly had been further prorogued. The cholera was still making most destructive ravages in the interior parishes of the island, and in many of those districts where all traces of it were supposed to have disappeared, it had again made its appearance, spreading terror and dismay in all directions. Throughout the island the weather was dry, and rain was experienced but seldom. The influenza and colds which had been so prevalent in Kingston and its environs had almost altogether disappeared, and on the whole the island was healthy, excepting those districts in which cholera prevails.

The accounts from *Canada* mention a serious riot at Toronto, on the 24th of July. On that evening, the Anti-Clergy-Reserve Association held a meeting, which was called by the Mayor. The High Church party called a meeting for the same hour, and addressed the mob in the most inflammatory language, inciting them to break up the Anti-Clergy-Reserve meeting. The mob proceeded to St. Lawrence Hall, (where that meeting was held) and attempted to force their way up stairs, but were driven back. They then prevented

others coming out, broke windows, and attacked several persons. The Mayor received a cut over one of his eyes by a stone. The Riot Act was read, and the military called out. The mob finally dispersed, without loss of life, about two o'clock in the morning.

The intelligence from the *Cape of Good Hope*, which comes down to the 4th of July, continues to be unsatisfactory. Sir H. Smith was on the frontier, but could not do much for want of efficient forces. The Kaffirs were kept at bay by the force under his command, although they could not be reduced to subjection without much greater strength being brought against them. However, they were effectually prevented from doing much harm. The feeling at the Cape was that the war would be of long duration, unless much more strength in the shape of troops was sent from England. Sandilli was in his native mountains. His favourite prophet has forsaken him and joined another chief. Pato remained faithful to the British cause. The news from head-quarters brings intelligence from King William's Town to the 17th of June. Bodies of troops which had gone out for the purpose of patrolling both banks of the Keiskamma, so as to prevent, if possible, the rebel Hottentots from retiring on the Amatola, or any reinforcement of Kaffirs from moving into the colony to their aid, had returned, after eight days' hard work in the bush, without falling in with any large body of the enemy, or capturing more than some two hundred of cattle.

NARRATIVE OF FOREIGN EVENTS.

THE general lull on the Continent of Europe begets no feeling of confidence. Distrust impends everywhere, and the announced probable meeting of the despotic sovereigns in Prussia will certainly not tend to disperse it. Nor do the last mails from the American continent bring news of a satisfactory kind. Crimes of the most barbarous character appear not only to be frightfully increasing in the less civilised states of the Union, but to be bringing into more systematic use than at any former period a mode of repressing them not less infamous and lawless. In the south there is little doubt that another piratical expedition against Cuba is proceeding, on a greater scale than that of last year; and if the Government of the republic suffers it to explode as its predecessor did, it may be found more difficult than formerly to save its promoters from the responsibilities of an attempt so atrocious in itself, so little warranted on public grounds, and so unheard of in the usages of nations understood to be at peace with each other. As to the reported insurrection in Cuba, it appears to be yet very doubtful whether it will turn out to be anything more than a mere invention of these amateur American pirates and sympathisers.

The *French National Assembly* terminated its session on the 9th, when it adjourned to the 4th of November. Public attention in France is chiefly occupied with the trial, now going on at Lyons, of a number of persons charged with a democratic conspiracy against the state. In November last a secret society was discovered, of which a person named Gent was a leading member. Many arrests consequently took place; and the prisoners have been brought before a military tribunal; the district being still under martial law. It appears from the evidence already taken, that the plan of Gent and his fellow-conspirators was to give the south-eastern departments of France a secret organization sufficiently strong and complete to enable them to break out in simultaneous insurrection on a given signal; to secure the frontier of Switzerland and of Savoy as a means of assistance or of retreat; to support the French movement by the advance of the refugees collected at Geneva; to take possession, if possible, of the ports of Toulon and Marseilles, and thus to command Algiers and the fleet; to inflame by this insurrection the south-eastern provinces, pledged to the movement, and subsequently the eastern departments, supposed to be favourable to it; and thus to lead to a general republican rising throughout the country, especially where the garrisons were weakest. From the number of persons implicated, the proceedings are very voluminous and likely to be protracted for a considerable time. The fraction of the Orleanist party which opposes the present government has resolved to bring forward the Prince de Joinville (with the Prince's own sanction, it is understood), as a candidate for the presidency of the

Republic next year, a step which has caused an immense sensation both among the Legitimists and Bonapartists. Some disturbances took place on the 13th inst., at Laurac (Ardèche). On the occasion of the fête of the town a banquet took place, at which were assembled the most ultra demagogues of Largentière, Joyeuse, and other neighbouring villages. After the dinner a crowd mustered outside the house where the guests were assembled, and began to cry "Vive la guillotine!" "Vivent les rouges!" "A bas les blancs!" The gendarmes interfered, and arrested two of the ringleaders, but the crowd rushed in and rescued them. A red flag was then displayed by the brother of the ex-sub-commissioner of Largentière, and the moment after the gendarmes were attacked with stones and sticks, and severely beaten. They at last, in self-defence, fired, and two of the assailants were wounded. The gendarmes at last succeeded, though not without difficulty, in gaining the mayor's house, where they found refuge. In about an hour after the sub-prefect of Largentière arrived with some troops, and after a short opposition dispersed the rioters. The bearer of the red flag was arrested, as well as five other persons. Warrants have been issued against some of the ringleaders, and a judicial investigation has been ordered. On the 12th inst., at Havre, the premises of M. Normand, one of the greatest ship-builders in France, including two fine vessels in course of construction, were destroyed by an accidental fire. The loss sustained is estimated at a million of francs.

The intelligence from *Germany* preserves its character of confusion and obscurity. The Sovereigns of Austria

and Prussia appear to be carrying on their joint endeavour to suppress every thing like constitutional right and independence in the German States. The following is given as the substance of a proposition for remodelling the constitution of the German States, about to be laid before the Diet by the above two powers:—"The repeatedly so-called fundamental rights of the German people, proclaimed in the project of a constitution for the Germanic Empire, under the dates of 27th December 1848 and 28th March 1849, can neither be regarded as valid as a law of the empire, nor be considered as binding on the separate states as a part of the Imperial law. These rights, therefore, are hereby declared to be abolished in all the confederate states. Those German States where, in particular, laws have been passed on the basis of these so-called fundamental rights, are commanded to set aside those laws whenever they are in contradiction with the laws of the confederation, or with the objects aimed at by the federal legislation."

In the Italian dominions of Austria, the state of things is gloomy and ominous. Arrests of compromised persons are continually made in Milan and Verona. In the latter city, one of the new prisoners was a lady of rank, accused of forwarding a correspondence to Mazzini. A system of espionage has been adopted in the Venetian provinces of Austria, unparalleled, for its inquisitorial and oppressive character, in the history of the most despotic states. The following instructions have been issued from the seat of government at Venice to the different military commanders:—"When you are requested to furnish information respecting any person with the qualification of special, you must exactly supply concerning that person all the following indications: 1. His nation, place of birth, parentage, age, &c. 2. His personal description. 3. His intellectual culture and talents. 4. His character and humour. 5. His sentiments in politics, religion, and other matters. 6. His social position and education. 7. The estimation in which he is publicly held, and the extent of his influence. 8. His manner of living—as, what he habitually does or omits to do; whether he is much or little at home; and, if he goes out, where he usually goes, with special indication of the names of the public places, private houses, and families he visits; and whether he goes to them in the day or in the night, frequently, seldom, or periodically; also, with what company he ordinarily spends his time. 9. What are his usual topics of discourse in public places. 10. With whom he keeps up a correspondence, and whether frequently, seldom, or periodically. 11. Whether he is in the habit of travelling, where, and on what pretext; and whether he does so frequently, or periodically, or seldom, alone or in company, and by what means of conveyance. 12. His means of subsistence; whether there is a due proportion between his income and his expenditure; whether he is lavish, economical, or parsimonious; and whether he lives from day to day. 13. In what special relations he stands to his parents, his family, his friends, and his mistress. 14. What part he took in the revolution, and whether by actions or only in thought. Was he an enthusiast or a cool-headed calculator? Did he in public or in secret aid the revolution under the mask of neutrality—when, where, and in what spot especially? 15. If he took no concern in the revolution, did he refrain on principle and from devotion to his lawful sovereign, or from fear, prudence, apathy, inertness, or calculation? 16. In the changes of party fortune, did he remain always the same, or did he turn as the wind was blowing? And by what facts might his change of sentiment be proved? 17. In fine, a biographic sketch describing all the antecedents of his history." Many persons belonging to the higher classes have been arrested in Verona, and nearly every night domiciliary visits are made by the police. The public mind throughout Austrian Italy is described as in a state of the most violent excitement, and insurrection is apprehended by government. Marshal Radetzky published a proclamation to the Lombardo-Venetian kingdom on the 9th of July, and from his head-quarters at Monga. The Lombardo-Venetian kingdom is declared to be in a state of siege; the communes are made responsible for all assassinations similar to that of Vandoni at Milan; and

the inhabitants will be severely dealt with if they do not immediately surrender all such offenders to the military.

Two musical artists, lately in London, have been made victims to the paltry prosecution of the Austrian government. Mlle. Anna Zerr, for having visited two of the Hungarian exiles resident here, and for having consented to sing at the concert for the relief of the Hungarian refugees, has, on her return to Vienna, been deprived of her place of imperial chamber-singer, prohibited from appearing on the stage of the Imperial Theatre, where she was one of the most distinguished performers, and placed under the surveillance of the police. And Leopold Iansa, an eminent violinist, who has been for many years in the Imperial Chapel, was dismissed for a similar offence. The decree cashiering him is a curiosity:—

Decree.—Whereas it has been ascertained that Leopold Iansa, violinist at the Imperial Royal Chapel, has not only played in the concert which took place in London, the 12th of July, for the benefit of the Hungarian refugees, but that he has likewise composed a duet on Hungarian melodies for that occasion, he is dismissed, by highest command, from his office as violinist and as professor of the piano and the violin at the Imperial Chapel; moreover, he is no longer to receive any salary from the last of August. Issued from the High Chamberlain's office, 12th of August, 1851. LICHTENSTEIN.

Countess Blanca Teleki, the sister of Madame Gerardo, has been sentenced by court-martial, and condemned to eight years' imprisonment, for political offence. Its nature does not appear.

The eclipse of the sun, on the 28th ult. produced much superstitious dread in several parts of Romish Germany. In Bavaria, the priests frightened the people into considerable almsgiving by telling them the eclipse *might* be the beginning of the end of all things. At the entrance of the Church of the Minorites, in Vienna, the following "Christian invitation" was posted—"The 27th of July being the eve of a great phenomenon of nature, processions will be made by the faithful to the shrines of our Lady at Maria Zell and Klein Maria Teferl, to pray for the intercession of the Queen of Heaven, that no harm may happen to our beloved city of Vienna. The faithful assemble at the convent of the Carmelites at six in the morning, and are requested to bring with them female children clothed in white, to attend the Cross."

A terrible catastrophe took place near *Moscow*, on the 20th of July. As the monks of the convent or Vladimir were setting out in procession to visit an image of the Virgin at a neighbouring village, a wooden bridge thrown over the moat of the convent (formerly a fortress) gave way, and out of 200 of the monks 158 were drowned; the water being 45 feet deep, and the sides of the moat perpendicular.

At *Rome* and *Naples* the governments seem to vie with each other in the lawless tyranny of their proceedings. In both cities, the gaols are full of political prisoners, torn from their homes without warrant, immured without trial, and treated with atrocious cruelty. The barbarity of the Papal government has been carried to the extent of forbidding the use of the prayer for the prisoners. The French at *Rome* have taken possession of the Inquisition, to be used as a barrack. This has caused a serious misunderstanding between them and the Papacy. An inspector-general had arrived in *Rome* on the 25th July, charged to inquire into the affair. As the Pope is permanent President of the Holy Office, this seizure may lead to serious consequences.

There are advices from *New York* to the 13th inst. There is little intelligence of any importance. The secession movement runs high in the Southern States of the Union. At a public dinner lately given in South Carolina, the following violent toasts were proposed and received with acclamations:—"Separate secession—now become necessary to the preservation of state rights; the only remedy proposed for our dishonour; the only alternative to submission." "Resistance at every hazard, and to the last extremity." "Our state—she is solemnly pledged to secede from this accursed and oppressive Union; and she will redeem her pledge. 'come weal,

come wo.'''—Another expedition for Cuba, under General Lopez, had sailed from New York. A Spanish squadron had been sent out to intercept it.

Another great fire at *San Francisco* has done extensive damage to the part of the city which was spared by the previous conflagration. The place is described as in a state of great and increasing demoralisation. Lynch law prevails; it is administered by a "Committee of Vigilance," whose sentences are executed as summarily as they are pronounced.—The *San Francisco* papers contain accounts of the arrival of Terence Bellew M'Manus, one of the Irish political convicts of 1848, who had escaped from Van Diemen's Land; he reached *San Francisco* on the 5th of June. He was heartily greeted by the citizens; a public dinner was got up to welcome him. The mayor presided, and Californian senators

and Representatives sat around. The following is a specimen of the toasts drunk at this celebration:—"Our guest, Terence Bellew M'Manus: Ireland gave him birth, England a dungeon, America a home, with a hundred thousand welcomes." (Music, "Home, Sweet Home.") It is stated that about the time M'Manus got clear off, a like attempt was made by Smith O'Brien, O'Donoghue, and O'Doherty. The sum of 600*l*. had been put into the hands of an Englishman named Ellis, to purchase a brig, which was done, and after loading and clearing at the customhouse, a concerted signal was to be given by the exiles, on the beach, when a boat was to be sent on shore from the brig. The knave, however, had informed the government officers of the project during the day; and as soon as the signal was given for the boat, the exiles were secured by the officers and carried back.

NARRATIVE OF LITERATURE AND ART.

THE extraordinary dulness of the past month in regard to all literary subjects is the only noticeable literary feature of it. The dulness has not been enlivened by Colonel Rawlinson's discoveries (important as they must be allowed to be) identifying the Assyrian kings whose palaces were recently excavated by Mr. Layard; nor have the discoveries of the Manchester Chetham Society, to the effect that Milton's eldest daughter could not write, that his second could not spell, and that his youngest was in much the same condition as her sisters, excited much perceptible curiosity or interest. Inferences in matter of this kind are too freely drawn upon very hasty assumptions; and it would at least require better evidence to overthrow the pleasant belief (hitherto resting on supposed credible testimony) that the "poet blind but bold" was indebted to the patient kindness of his youngest daughter for not a little of the learning of which his genius made such inspired and noble use. It is not unconnected with these subjects to record gratefully the very favourable answer just given by the Master of the Rolls to a memorial presented by the leading English authors for permission to search the national records free of cost. He proposes to concede at once a part of the privilege asked, with a view to complete acquiescence ultimately, if what is now granted shall be found to work satisfactorily. This will greatly facilitate discoveries in our national history and literature.

Rarely have fewer books issued from the press in any single month, during the last twenty years, than in the month just passed; and even the two books published in it, of greatest pretension, have been translations from the French. The completion of Lanartine's first volume of his *History of the Restoration* confirms, on the whole, the favourable impression with which its opening chapters were received; and M. Mignet's *History of Mary Queen of Scots* has contributed some interest, even some novelty, to that over-written subject. For it is at least new feeling to experience no sense of partisanship in reading of Mary Stuart; and the view which M. Mignet takes, in holding her responsible for a guilty complicity in the murder of her second husband, but in acquitting her of the more frivolous charges of inconstancy and self-indulgence, is probably the right one.

The Hakluyt Society have added to their very interesting publications, Richard Hakluyt's translation of the account of De Soto's *Discovery and Conquest of Florida*, with an additional account curiously corroborative of all its substantial details discovered and translated by the editor, Mr. Rye, of the British Museum. This expedition was not without valuable results of an incidental kind, though in its main objects it failed so lamentably; and the narrative now given is extremely vivid and striking. Another volume, curiously illustrative of the past, has been published with the uninviting title of *Consuetudines Kancie*. This is, in other words, a history of the Gavelkind, and other remarkable customs of the County of Kent. The author is a skilled antiquary, and gives many sound reasons for his belief that in not a few of those peculiar customs may be directly traced the famous and venerable laws of Edward the Confessor. Another smaller book deserves mention with these. Doctor Latham has added to those researches and speculations as to races which have lately been found to explain so much of the peculiarities of national habits, customs, and laws, a sketch of the *Ethnology of the British Colonies and Dependencies*.

What other books of the month may claim to be best worth mention, are books of travel. One of our eastern residents (Mr. Neale) has published an intelligent *Eight*

Years in Syria and Palestine; a lively and observant writer has published *Recollections of a Ramble from Sydney to Southampton*; and Mr. Waddington has translated a German author's fanciful and imaginative impressions of Eastern travel, under the title of *The Morning Land, or a Thousand and One Days in the East*. What is too obviously fiction is too much blended in this book with what is stated to be fact, but the Georgian, Armenian, and Russian scenes described are new and good.

The rest of the month's literature has been made up of pamphlets, reprints, or guide-books; and of the latter only two may be singled out as having anything of literary mark or value. *Murray's Handbook of London* is an excellent abridgment, with much new matter descriptive of existing streets and objects of interest, of Mr. Peter Cunningham's more important London handbook; and the same publisher's *Handbook to the Antiquities of the British Museum* may be said to be the only clear and consistent account that has yet been attempted of our great public collection of national remains of art, as they are now placed and classified, and enriched by the recent accessions. It is written by Mr. Vaux, who holds an office in this department of the Museum.

At Her Majesty's Theatre, the regular season terminated on Tuesday, the 26th; but extra performances, at playhouse prices, were announced for the remainder of the week. In the early part of this month, Signora Barbieri Nini, a singer of great Italian celebrity, made her first appearance in this country in the character of *Lucrezia Borgia*, in which she displayed dramatic and vocal talents of the highest order.

At the Royal Italian Opera, the regular season has also terminated, but is to be followed by several extra performances. Gounod's grand opera, *Saffo*, produced on the 9th instant, had a *succès d'estime*, but not proving attractive, had only two representations.

The only provincial musical festival this year is that of Worcester, which began on the 23rd, and terminated on the 27th instant.

COMMERCIAL RECORD.

BANKRUPTCS.

From the Gazette of July 29th.—E. HERRING, Trinity-street, Southwark, chemist.—J. LIMBIRD, Strand, stationer.—R. KEEPING, Ryde, watch-maker.—E. GATES, Aylesford, grocer.—A. HINTON, Portsmouth, stationer.—E. DAVIS, Northampton, currier.—T. IRAM and V. WAXOSTROCHT, Liverpool, brokers.—R. HEATH and Co., Tunstall, iron-masters.—T. J. KING, Stourport, innkeeper.—D. PHILLIPS, Cardiff, linen-draper.—B. DAW, Lumborn Mills, Tavistock, miller.—J. SEARLE, Brixham, builder.

Aug. 1st.—H. M. ARLISS, and E. TUCKER, Frith-street, printers.—J. BROWN, Deal, grocer.—T. E. SLATE, King's-head-court, City, bookbinder.—J. SHORT, Weedon Beck, Northamptonshire, wine-merchant.—E. MITCHELL, Walthamstow, baker.—J. H. MAY, Brecknock-terrace, draper.—M. BEART, Upwell, Norfolk, brick-maker.—E. G. CUFFY, Leicester, hotel-keeper.—J. MACDUFF, Llanelly, Brecknockshire, auctioneer.

Aug. 5th.—E. A. WYNNE and J. LUMSDEN, East-street, Manchester-square, builders.—T. MARRIOTT, Leighton Buzzard, seed-merchant.—G. STRINGER, Chamber-street, Goodman's-fields, Italian-warehousemen.—E. P. QUADLING, Ipswich, railway-carriage-builder.—G. K. MATTHEWS, Fernestown-row, bookbinder.—J. LUSCOMBE, Llandulph, Cornwall, miller.

Aug. 8th.—S. CHURCHILL and T. CLADEN, Church-row, Limehouse, builders.—J. CUNDALL, Old-bond-street, publisher.—J. BEAUMONT, Leman-street, engineer.—H. HAYES, Regent-street, draper.—I. ISAACS, Swan-street, Minorities, jeweller.—W. E. FOLLIT, Chenies-place, Somers-town, carver and gilder.—J. FRANCISKE, Portsea, woollen-draper.—J. PARKINS, Cheapside, clothier.—H. LEWIS and J. HERVEY, Halifax, spirit-merchants.—W. SPEAK, Halifax, snuff-manufacturer.—J. NEWTON, sen., Watlingborough, Lincolnshire, boat-owner.—W. CLOUGHTON, Hull, auctioneer.—C. P. HENVILLE, Chideock, Dorsetshire, miller.—J. PERCIVAL, Market Deeping, Lincolnshire, innkeeper.

Aug. 12th.—R. SEYMOUR, Downham, Cambridgeshire, grocer.—J. J. VEVENS, Ironmonger-lane, woollen-warehouseman.—T. F. PIPER, Laurence-lane, stay-maker.—J. B. PHILLIP and Co., East-street, Manchester-square, builders.—F. MILLAR, St. John's-wood, lively-estate-keeper.—E. CLAY, Emsley, Kent, linen-draper.—W. POWELL, Jeffery-street, Canterbury, builder.—R. MOTT, Gracechurch-street, tailor.—J. NEWTON, sen., Watlingborough, Lincolnshire, boat-owner.—R. JACKSON, Liverpool, organ-builder, T. RICHARDSON, Liverpool, cutler.—S. CHERRY, Liverpool, broker.

Aug. 15th.—M. FEENY and J. GARD, St. Martin's-lane, woollen-draper.—G. NOCK and J. WILLIAMS, Frith-street, goldsmiths.—T. DAVEY, jun., Halstead, builder.—H. BEAL, Shoe-lane, book-seller.—J. PAUL, Oxford-street, milliner.—W. F. DOKOVAN, Oxford-street, poultryer.—G. SMALL, Folkestone, tailor.—W. BAIRD, Liverpool, paper-hanger.—C. OLEY, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, ship-broker.

Aug. 19th.—F. BAYNHAM, Hounslow, grocer.—J. BARKER, Exmouth-street, cheesemonger.—W. SMITH, Princes-street, Leicester-square, engineer.—B. LINDSEY, Market Deeping, draper.—A. KRAUSS, Manchester, share-broker.

Aug. 22nd.—R. MIDDLEWOOD and A. FOSTER, Leeds, linen-draper.—W. PIERSE, Covent-garden-market, victualler.—W. BENNING, Fleet-street, bookseller.—J. CRAWFORD, Chalk-farm, tavern-keeper.—E. DICKINSON, Wolverhampton, corn-merchant.—H. W. DERRY, Wolverhampton, builder.—J. DICKENSON, Walsall.—C. V. WILLS, Exeter, dealer in lamps.—J. NICOL, Hull, broker.—T. HAILSTON, Wheelock, grocer.—J. WILDE, Salford, builder.—W. HODGSON, Lancaster, watch-maker.

Aug. 26th.—C. C. GEABY, Colchester, Essex, cheesemonger.—J. E. NORTON, Crescent, Asylum-road, Old Kent-road, wine-merchant.—T. WALLIS, jun., and S. WALLIS, Leeds, linen-draper.—J. WILDE, Salford, Lancashire, builder.—W. WOODS, Basinghall-street, City, warehouseman.

BANKRUPTCIES ANNULLED.

Aug. 15th.—R. MOORE, Sun-tavern-fields, St. George's-in-the-east, commission-agent.

Aug. 19th.—S. BROWN, Sunderland, ship-owner.

Aug. 22nd.—R. MAYOR, Bolton-le-moors, grocer.

MONEY MARKET.

There has been little fluctuation either in the prices of Government Stocks, or of Railway Shares, during the past month. The present state of the Money Market is nearly the same as at the end of July.

STOCKS.

	Highest.	Lowest.	Latest.
Three per Cent. Consols . . .	96 $\frac{1}{2}$	96 $\frac{1}{2}$	96 $\frac{1}{2}$
Three per Cent. Reduced . . .	97 $\frac{1}{2}$	97	97
Three and a quarter per Cents .	99 $\frac{1}{2}$	98 $\frac{1}{2}$	98 $\frac{1}{2}$
Long Annuities, Jan. 1860 . . .	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	7 $\frac{1}{2}$
Bank Stock	216 $\frac{1}{2}$	215 $\frac{1}{2}$	215 $\frac{1}{2}$
India Stock	263	260	260
Exchequer Bills	51 $\frac{1}{2}$	44	51 $\frac{1}{2}$
India Bonds £100	59s. 6d.	53s. 6d.	57s. 6d.

FOREIGN FUNDS—LATEST PRICES.

Brazilian 5 per cent., 91 $\frac{1}{2}$	Peruvian 5 per cent., 91
Buenos Ayres 6 per cent., 56	Portuguese 4 per cent., 34 $\frac{1}{2}$
Danish 5 per cent., 104 $\frac{1}{2}$	Russian 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., 102
Dutch 4 p. c. certificates, 93	Spanish 5 per cent., acc., 21
Mexican 5 per cent., 28 $\frac{1}{2}$	

Paid.	RAILWAYS.	Highest.	Lowest.	Latest.
100	Brighton and South Coast.	93 $\frac{1}{2}$	91 $\frac{1}{2}$	94 $\frac{1}{2}$
all	Blackwall	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	6 $\frac{1}{2}$
50	Caledonia	11 $\frac{1}{2}$	10 $\frac{1}{2}$	10 $\frac{1}{2}$
20	Eastern Counties	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	5 $\frac{1}{2}$
50	Edinburgh and Glasgow .	27 $\frac{1}{2}$	27 $\frac{1}{2}$	27 $\frac{1}{2}$
all	Great Northern	17 $\frac{1}{2}$	16 $\frac{1}{2}$	16 $\frac{1}{2}$
100	Great Western	85 $\frac{1}{2}$	78 $\frac{1}{2}$	78 $\frac{1}{2}$
50	Hull and Selby	104	103 $\frac{1}{2}$	103 $\frac{1}{2}$
100	Lancashire and Yorkshire	49 $\frac{1}{2}$	47	47 $\frac{1}{2}$
100	London & North-Western	124 $\frac{1}{2}$	117 $\frac{1}{2}$	117 $\frac{1}{2}$
100	Midland	43	39 $\frac{1}{2}$	40 $\frac{1}{2}$
25	North British	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	5 $\frac{1}{2}$
30	South-Eastern and Dover .	22 $\frac{1}{2}$	20 $\frac{1}{2}$	20 $\frac{1}{2}$
100	South-Western	84 $\frac{1}{2}$	80	80
25	York, Newc., and Berwick	18 $\frac{1}{2}$	16 $\frac{1}{2}$	16 $\frac{1}{2}$
50	York and North Midland	18 $\frac{1}{2}$	16 $\frac{1}{2}$	16 $\frac{1}{2}$

FOREIGN RAILWAYS—LATEST PRICES.

Boulogne and Amiens, 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	Paris and Rouen, 24 $\frac{1}{2}$
East Indian, 25 pm.	Paris and Strasbourg, 11 $\frac{1}{2}$
Namur and Liege, 6	Rouen and Havre, 9 $\frac{1}{2}$
Northern of France, 14 $\frac{1}{2}$	Tours and Nantes, 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ dis.

CORN MARKET—LONDON WEEKLY AVERAGES.

Wheat, per qr., 42s. 5d. Barley, 25s. 10d.; Oats, 22s.; Rye, 28s.; Beans, 31s. 7d.; Peas, 28s. 2d.; Flour (town made), delivered, 39s. to 42s.; American barrel of 196 lbs., 19s. to 21s.

PROVISIONS—LATEST WHOLESALE PRICES.

Bacon, per cwt., Irish, 42s. to 58s.	Hams, per cwt.—York, 50s. to Irish 68s.; Westphalia, 49s. to 53s.
Beef, per 8 lbs., mid to prime, 2s. 4d. to 3s. 2d.	Mutton, per 8 lbs., mid to prime, 2s. 8d. to 3s. 6d.
Butter, per cwt.—Cork, 72s. to 73s. Waterford, 1st, 67s. to 74s.; Dutch Friesland, 78s. to 82s.; Limerick, 65s. to 69s.	Pork, 8 lbs., 2s. 8d. to 3s. 8d.
Cheese, per cwt., Cheshire, 42s. to 70s.; Derby, pln., 48s. to 60s.	Veal, per 8 lbs., 2s. 4d. to 3s. 8d.
Eggs, per 120, French, 4s. 6d. to 6s. 3d.	Lamb, 3s. 4d. to 4s. 4d.
	Potatoes, per ton.—Kent and Essex Shaws, 60s. to 72s.; Kent and Essex Middling, 55s. to 70s.; Chats, 31s. to 36s.

GROCERY—LATEST WHOLESALE PRICES.

Cocoa, per cwt. Ord. to good red Trinidad, 38s. to 54s.; Brazil, 26s. to 28s.	to 47s.; British West India, good brown, 33s. to 34s.; Mauritius, 26s. to 41s.; Brazil, 23s. to 42s.
Coffee, per cwt.—Good ord., native Ceylon, 38s. to 78s.; Sumatra, 34s. to 37s.; Java, 38s. to 51s.	Tea, per lb. (duty 2s. 1d. and 5 per cent.),—Ord. to Good Congou, 10d. to 1s. 8d. Souchong, common to fine, 9d. to 2s. 6d. to 3s. to fine Hyson, 1s. 2d. to 3s.; Imperial, 1s. to 2s. 6d.
Rice, per cwt.—Carolina 16s. to 17s.; Madras, 7s. to 9s.; Patna, cleaned, 11s. to 16s.	
Sugar, per cwt.—Bengal 26s.	

Candles, per 12 lbs. 4s. 6d. to 5s. 6d. | Coals, per ton, 14s. 6d.

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Pale Seal, per 252 gals., 34l. 10s.	Palm, per ton, 27l. 10s. to 28l.
Sperm, 84l. to 87l.	Olive, Gallipoli, 40l. to 41l.
Cod, 36l. 10s.	Linseed, 33l. to 33l. 6s.

THE

HOUSEHOLD NARRATIVE

OF CURRENT EVENTS.

1851.]

FROM THE 28TH AUGUST TO THE 27TH SEPTEMBER.

[PRICE 2d.]

THE THREE KINGDOMS.

THE political dullness of the dullest month of the political year has not been greatly relieved by a pronouncement from Mr. Disraeli, in Bucks. In this display the author of the *Revolutionary Epic* tried his hand at that ingenious puzzle of trying to put nonsense into the form of sense which he has often tried before. But this is not among the revolutions in the ordinary uses of language which even his ingenuity has any chance of rendering successful. "Let us consider," said he, "what are our real prospects, and what, under the circumstances, as *men of sense who understand the spirit of the age*, we ought to take," &c., &c., &c. Imagine these words addressed to the top-boots and leather smalls of the Royal Bucks Agricultural Association. Why, what should a bigotted old squire do, in the character of a man understanding the spirit of the age, but forthwith go down himself, beeves, buckskins and all, if unprepared to cut the connection with Mr. Disraeli and the R.B.A.A.? What possible comfort can he derive from being told that he had better go for a re-adjustment of taxation generally, rather than for a new tax on corn, because there is a mighty difference between upholding a system that exists and bringing back a system which has been abrogated? He has only room for one idea in his head, and why should Mr. Disraeli overwhelm him with two. The old squire, accordingly, in the shape (for the nonce) of a Mr. Paul Foskett, "punches" the head of Mr. Disraeli as the best answer he can make to his proposal. We want no more parliamentary hide and seek, Paul bawls out. No more time-serving ambiguity for us, no more parliamentary chicanery, no more political cowardice! We go for the real thing and no mistake. "We are determined to regain for every British interest full and effectual protection from foreign competition." And so beginneth that persecution of Benjamin by Paul, for the end of which sensible men will wait quietly, and with unruffled temper and patience. They have only to remember, with Paul, that "a suffering and oppressed people have in the eleventh hour learnt a lesson by which they can profit,"—and to console themselves, with Benjamin, that "the system generally known by the name of the protective system can never be brought back unless it is the interest of all classes, and unless the nation speaks out upon the question in an unmistakable manner."

Much more exciting than any such protectionist passage of arms, though it may yet be open to doubt whether it is likely to be as profitable to us all, has been the announced descent of the god of wealth *propria persona*, at Bathurst in Australia, some hundred and fifty miles from Sydney, attended by a rush as eager to offer him homage, from all parts of the colony, as greeted his first appearance in California now some three years back. Let us hope that the experience of these three years, on populations not our own, may help us to make a somewhat more profitable use of what has here befallen us. If ever the curse of Timon—

Be as a planetary plague, when Jove
Will o'er some high viç'd city hang his poison
In the sick air,

—was manifested in what seemed a precious gift, it has been so displayed in California. In Bathurst, the ominous visitor descends on a population more civilised, though with temptations incident to certain classes of it by no means trifling in amount or degree; and it finds an organised government knowing the duties required of it, though certainly less able than might have been wished to give proper effect to its determinations and resolves. On the whole, the balance of hope is on the favourable side. There will be a more full and free immigration than any less powerful inducement could have brought into the colony; what it has most required in the way of labour will now be voluntarily attracted to its shores; the short-comings of government in the way of facilities of passage, encouragement of cultivation, stimulants to industry of all kinds, will at last be sure of redress, without the sacrifice of another sheet of foolscap or yard of red tape in Downing Street;—and for the rest, as we have said, we must hope. The bubble of Plutus may soon burst; but the human thews and sinews, and the exhaustless wealth of a rich and almost boundless soil, cannot but remain. Nor will it be matter for very great regret should the many active eager men now rushing to the Australian diggings, be taught by a little sharp suffering that nothing which is worth the having waits on mere luck or chance, but everything on skill and industry, even in the neighbourhood of mines of gold. To everything nature compels toil. She does not sow her treasures broadcast over the earth. Nothing is to be had from her by coaxing. She exacts sheer hard work from all who would profit by her; and if the sum were ever capable of being clearly worked out, it is more than probable that the amount of labour and capital sunk in the sands and soil of California during the last three miserable years, would be but fairly represented by the "yield" of gold she has surrendered. As compensation for the attendant vice and misery, the sum would exhibit *nothing*.

Mr. Gladstone has reason to congratulate himself upon the effect of his gallant and brave vindication of humanity against the atrocities of King Bomba and the government of Naples. The arrow which he shot stands rankling in the heart of the foul creature aimed at, and from side to side its yells of pain are audible. In the midst of a terrible earthquake, which has spread desolation throughout the Neapolitan kingdom, as though nature herself took part against such wickedness and were prophesying doom against the land polluted by it, the respectable literary spokesmen of King Ferdinand's prisons and scaffolds have had time to prepare an official answer to the letters of the English statesman. The pitiful "private" defence out

forth by their police agent in England having provoked but a shout of loathing against its hapless author, a public manifesto became necessary; and here it is, hypocritical, crawling, cowardly, and false, as befits the source from which it comes. It affects to treat Mr. Gladstone with respect, and to lament that he should have taken for truth the mere invention of republican conspirators. It denies the correctness of the alleged number of untried political prisoners now wasting out their lives in unwholesome dungeons, but does not dare to deny the detention of a certain number of such prisoners without examination or charge, and in defiance of every provision of the existing laws. It asserts that the judges who try these prisoners, when any trial is vouchsafed them, are not servilely dependent upon the pleasure of the king, and that if they do not condemn they do not therefore lose their livelihood; but it has not the effrontery to assert that such men have not lost their livelihood when they consented to acquittals, though it affects to account for such removals as the result of "neglect of duty." It does not attempt to deny that President Novarro, an attempt on whose life formed part of one of the criminal charges, sat as judge to try that very charge; it silently admits that the same Novarro compelled a particular judge to declare for a conviction under direct threats of intimidation and removal; and the same post which brings the pamphlet to England, brings also intelligence that the son of this Novarro has just obtained one of the most valuable appointments in the gift of the crown as its testimony of appreciation for his father's services. It denies the filth of the dungeons, on the faith of the wretches set over them; and it declares the untruth of Mr. Gladstone's assertion, about the physicians finding the lower regions of these dungeons too foul and loathsome for it to be expected that professional men should consent to earn bread by entering them, on no better authority than that it would "insult the distinguished character of the physicians of Naples" to believe Mr. Gladstone! The double irony it does not deny; the chaining educated men one to another in horrible cells, and keeping them so chained, not only sleeping and waking, but in all the necessities to which bodily life is exposed; it leaves shamelessly without contradiction. But it argues that men cast for death, whose lives have been spared by the clemency of a king, cannot complain of any amount of "the severe rigour of the law" short of formal execution; and, for support of this flunky reasoning by a parallel case which every Englishman may be able to estimate at its worth, it has the incredible folly to assert that no more additional punishment was inflicted on these convicts than the British government itself thought proper to direct against Mr. Smith O'Brien and his companions! Finally, it is not denied that there exists, and has been circulated throughout the government establishments and places of education, a catechism teaching falsehood upon system, and giving the sanction of moral laws to deliberate perjury; it is not denied that this catechism was written by the person placed at the head of Public instruction in the kingdom; but it is asserted that for its recent revival and circulation the government cannot be held responsible, that being wholly a "private speculation!" Such is the character of this official defence of the felon government of Europe. It does not touch, in any one passage, the real question put in issue by Mr. Gladstone as to an open subversion of law in the political trials of Naples, and an outrageous violation of decency and humanity in the punishments unrighteously awarded. The one case which was taken by the English statesman as but the type of countless others, is left precisely where it was placed by Mr. Gladstone. Even the journal which has been most disposed to regard Poerio's case unfavourably, has at once admitted that the charges against the Neapolitan government, in connection with that statesman, remain untouched by the present pamphlet—those charges being that this high-minded gentleman, who had not long before served the crown in one of the most important offices of state, was arrested and confined in filthy prisons for seven or eight months without information of the charge against him or of those who made it; that he was first indicted on evidence so clearly forged that the perjurer stood convicted even in the eyes of the Court; that he was then accused on testimony so full of manifest contradictions and absurdities as absolutely to ruin the case for the prosecution in any impartial minds; that he was not allowed the most simple means of establishing the false swearing of the witnesses against him; that the director of the police himself had been seen in the prison soliciting the testimony of the prisoners, and, as we have just remarked, that the President of the Court was one of the very persons against whom the accused was said to have conspired. Such is the defence of King Bomba, now put forth by himself. It is, perhaps, a waste of time to have noticed it even thus; but should any reader fall into the trap of thinking that any more detailed attention should be paid to its affected particularity of statement in regard to sundry minor incidents connected with the principal and damning charges, let him read and consider the remarkable and pregnant words employed by Mr. Gladstone in his first pamphlet. "I will not discuss the correctness of my statements with those who alone are likely to impugn them, because I cannot do it on equal terms. First, inasmuch as in Naples secrecy is the almost universal rule of the proceedings of government, and the perfect servitude of the press cuts off the means of sifting controversial matter, and shuts the ordinary avenues of truth. Secondly, because by entering upon such details would infallibly cause unjust suspicion to alight upon individuals, and would thus at once give rise to further persecutions. Thirdly, and most of all, because I am so entirely certain of the general accuracy of my statements, in the fearful pictures they present, and the general result to which they lead, as to feel that they are beyond *bonâ fide* dispute." At this very moment there are printing offices in Naples shut up, and some score of compositors in prison, for the offence of having attempted simply to reprint the letters which the government has yet found itself thus compelled to attempt to reply to!

From Naples to Ireland would be no very violent transition, if Dr. Cullen and Dr. M'Hale could but order everything after their peculiar desires. But happily some check is placed upon them by what remains of the Anglo-Saxon spirit among Irish Catholics themselves. From the first published reports of the Queen's Colleges, which opened two years ago amid a storm of fiery abuse from the parties supposed to be most powerful in Ireland, and which ever since have been steadily denounced by the men who are known to represent most nearly the wishes and opinions of Rome, it is manifest that these colleges are succeeding. At Belfast there are nearly two hundred matriculated students, at Cork more than a hundred and fifty, and, making allowance for local circumstances, even the College at Galway shows a clear and decided progress. In the case of the latter institution we should add that the Roman Catholic dean of residence, who had testified during his first year's experience of the college to its happy effects on the faith and morals of the students, was withdrawn by the usurped authority of his bishop (exercised to prostrate the lawful authority of the legislature and the crown) before he could bear witness to similar results in the second year; and yet the Roman Catholic students did not withdraw with him. They remained, and compensated by their excellent

conduct for his compelled absence. Nor in the other colleges, where religious difficulties were as little wanting to obstruct success, are the reports of moral and spiritual progress less satisfactory, whether from the Presbyterian, the Protestant, or the Roman Catholic. It was consequently felt as soon as they appeared, that a damaging blow had been struck against the Cullen ascendancy, and this notion received speedy corroboration in the prompt appearance of a fresh and more elaborate manifesto against mixed education from the pen of the redoubtable Cullen himself. It is in the shape of a letter to an alderman of Cork, and a more rapid or powerless production it would be impossible to conceive. The most ardent catholics cannot but profess themselves ashamed of the teaching of this bigot priest, who would violently cut asunder every bond of union now existing between the catholic and protestant in their native land. They see that what is an argument for the separation of children in schools, is equally an argument for separation in the social intercourse of maturer age; and from such a logical carrying out of bigotry and intolerance to their legitimate consequences, they shrink startled and non-acquiescent. Apart from the wrong involved in any such alienation, they find it called for by no necessity, recommended by no advantage. The cowl of the monk might as well be substituted at once for the ordinary secular head-gear of the citizen. They have clearly no taste for it. Let us see exactly the words they use, and which hereafter may be worth recalling. "They know," says their ablest organ in the Irish press, speaking of the Cullen theory of education, "that it involves a total disorganisation of society, and they regard the advocacy of it by the chief prelate of their island with mingled feelings of pain and humiliation. They themselves understand how it is that he should be the champion of a principle repugnant to all their own ideas, and they can find excuses for a line of conduct which they regret to witness. But it is a distressing task for persons in this position to have to apologise for one in his." Courage, good Catholic fellow-citizens! It would be more distressing to have to yield up your birthright, without even a mess of good Christian pottage to reward you for its loss. For what must a man's theory or practice of religion be worth who would sow general dissension and separation between all sects and classes of faithful Christian men?

Nor are these threats of rebellion against ultra-montanism the only gleams of hope now visible on the Irish horizon. There has been a plan made public within the last fortnight, which has for its object the enabling Irishmen to help themselves. The mere singularity of such a project we are disposed to accept for omen of its success. But it is started with other more favourable because more practical omens. A number of men, known only for what ordinarily keeps men entirely unknown in Ireland, we mean abstinence from all wild party cries, political or religious, have consented to form a committee to work the scheme. Its object is to arrest the tide of emigration, which threatens unchecked to desolate the land, by creating a peasant proprietary; and this is proposed to be accomplished by applying the principle and machinery of the English Freehold Land Societies, originated by Mr. Taylor of Birmingham, to the facilities of purchasing land created under the Encumbered Estates Act. All the details appear to have been thoroughly considered, as well with reference to the sufficiency of farms of the size proposed, and the existence of sufficient capital among the classes appealed to, as to the chances of regularity in the paying up of instalments. As to the first point, we must nevertheless confess we see greater difficulties than seem to be altogether admitted by the authors of the scheme. The societies as worked in England have hitherto proved available, we believe, chiefly as building societies. To place a man in possession of a farm without ample means of applying it to effectual agricultural purposes, is to spoil a good labourer for the purpose of making a bad farmer. A bit of land wholly arable may be very well tilled with the spade, but for other land other and more expensive agencies are required, and will hardly be so easy of attainment as the scheme takes for granted. In other words it may be found necessary at first to begin on a larger scale in reference to the size of the farm. But all this will come duly into discussion; and from such discussion, and other questions consequent on the proposal having been launched in real earnest, nothing but good effects can arise. It is the most hopeful gleam of light that has shone upon Ireland for many a day.

To the two topics (unhappily always "standing") of railway mismanagement and religious scandal there has been the usual monthly contribution. We long ago stated that parliamentary interference had become necessary in regard to some matters of railway management, and railway directors themselves are now clamouring for parliamentary interference to check railway competition. The same stone will serve for both if well aimed and smartly flung. See what has just been done in the religious department (if the incomes of bishops can by any amount of straining be brought under that head) by a sharply levelled Order in Council under the Ecclesiastical Commission Act. All bishops appointed after the 1st of January 1848, are required to deliver twice a-year a *correct account in writing*, certified under their hand, of all moneys received by them in respect of the revenues of their sees during the last half-year, and, if such sum shall exceed or fall short of the half-yearly income allotted to him by the commissioners, the Bishop is to *pay over the surplus*, or receive the deficiency, as the case may be. It is further provided, that in every case of a fine exceeding 100*l.*, the Bishop shall not be permitted to renew without the consent of the commissioners, and, if the fine exceed one-half the annual income, the lessees are empowered to pay it over to the commissioners. Any one not properly respectful to the episcopal bench might be apt to think that this order implied nothing less than the damaging charge that when a bishop's income (appointed before January 1848) happened to be in excess of what had been calculated upon, he has not only pocketed the surplus, but peradventure rendered accounts not faultlessly "correct." There is another provision in the order capable also of disrespectful construction. The commissioners are authorised to enter into an agreement for regulating the income of any bishop appointed before the 1st of January 1848. Each will cry, that is levelled at me! Why should you wish to regulate *my* income, the Bishop of Durham will ask. You assigned me 8000*l.* as my income, but my see produces 30,000*l.*, and if I pay you over 13,000*l.*, and keep 17,000*l.* for myself, who on earth has reason to complain? And ditto to Doctor Malby, will be the cry of the right reverend brethren in their various acquisitive degrees. Nevertheless the hint of the Order in Council will not be lost sight of by the public, if it should happen (as is most likely) to be clean forgotten by the bishops "appointed before the 1st of January 1848."

NARRATIVE OF POLITICS.

THERE was a meeting of Roman Catholics at Birmingham on the 6th, to express their obligations to Dr.

Newman for his lectures delivered there on *Catholicism in England*. The meeting was remarkable, chiefly for the announcement on the cards of admission that "the Lord Bishop of Birmingham" would preside, and for

the defiant tone adopted by Dr. Ullathorne. When he rose to address the meeting he was greeted with "three cheers for the Bishop of Birmingham;" and he asserted that the only effect of the late agitation and law-making on the subject would be, to excite the Catholics to give their prelates their territorial designations. "With regard to the Irish (he said), their habit had always been merely to salute their Bishops as the Most Reverend Dr. Murray, &c., but now an Irishman would consider it as treason to his Church if, in speaking of his Bishop, he did not designate him as 'The Lord Archbishop of Dublin,' or 'The Lord Bishop of Derry.'"

A fraud has been practised on the Archbishop of Canterbury, to draw from him an opinion adverse to that expressed by the Bishop of London, that certain pastors of foreign Protestant churches were not validly ordained. His Grace, having received a letter from a person subscribing himself W. Francis, and describing himself a convert from Dissent to the Established Church, in which he requested to be informed of the Archbishop's sentiments on the subject, his Grace wrote a reply, marked private, in which he said:—"I hardly imagine that there are two bishops on the bench, or one clergyman in fifty throughout our church, who would deny the validity of the orders of these pastors solely on account of their wanting the imposition of Episcopal hands. And I am sure that you have misunderstood the import of the letter which occasioned your addressing me if you supposed that it implied any such sentiment in the writer's mind." The letter to the Archbishop, signed W. Francis, was written by William Rees Francis Gawthorn, one of the recent converts to the Church of Rome, who immediately made it public. The Archbishop, seeing his private letter printed in all the journals, sent a messenger to the writer's address, to inquire by what means it had found its way into the newspapers. The writer, not finding it convenient to be at home, left at his lodging a letter for "the gentleman from Dr. Sumner," which was signed with the writer's real name, and contained the following paragraphs:—"You no doubt wish to know if it was I who addressed Dr. Sumner lately, with respect to the sentiments of his brethren in regard to the 'foreign pastors.' I beg to say that I did write to Dr. Sumner on that subject, with a view to the benefit of a relative whom I am trying to convert (for I am myself a Catholic), and that I omitted my surname in the signature of my letter, in case it should defeat the object I had in view, for I thought it was possible that Dr. Sumner might have heard my name, and might know that I was a Catholic, which would probably have prevented his giving me the information I desired. I have also to add further, that all that I said in my note was strictly true, and that of course I intended to avoid acting in any way inconsistent with the 'private' nature of the communication. I mean, that I should not of course feel myself at liberty to publish it. I have much respect for Dr. Sumner personally, though, I confess, none whatever for 'the Church of England,' and am much obliged to him for his courteous reply to my note. If it is thought that the course I pursued in this matter was unjustifiable, or 'doing evil that good may come,' I can only say that I did not think so, nor did others who are better able to judge. I have only shown the letter to personal friends, for whose conversion to the Church I am most anxious." One of the "personal friends" to whom Mr. Gawthorn communicated the Archbishop's letter, was the Rev. Cyril Page, incumbent of Christ Church, Westminster, whom he desired to convert to the Church of Rome. He informed Mr. Page that he possessed the above letter from the Archbishop, described the purport of that letter, and then, though it was marked "private"—which he begged Mr. Page to "bear in mind"—declared himself "ready to show the above letter to any one who wishes to see it:" he told Mr. Page in addition, "you are at liberty to make any private use of the information I have given you, short of communicating it to Protestant 'bishops.'" Mr. Page rejected with scorn the offered communication. In his reply to Mr. Gawthorn, he said:—"I presume you are the same Mr. Gawthorn who resided for a short time in Dartmouth street, and deserted the Church of England for that of Rome. I presume, also, that you are the same

Mr. Gawthorn who a short time afterwards, under the name of 'Rees,' sent a letter to the Bishop of London, accusing the clergy of St. Margaret's, Westminster, of altering the calendar and observing the Feast of the Annunciation on a wrong day, and who, when detected, declared that it was done with the object of driving some of the accused parties to Rome. Such being the case, I have no hesitation about the answer which I ought to give such a letter, coming from such a person. I refuse your offer, and I reject your confidence. I repudiate your claim to tie me down to a 'private' use of the information which you have unwarrantably forced upon me. I know not upon what principle a man who insults the Church of England and her bishops, and who, upon his own showing, is willing to betray the confidence reposed in him, can claim to force his confidence and impose secrecy upon a priest of the Church which he is endeavouring to subvert, and whose chief pastors he calumniate. I, therefore, so far from acknowledging any such obligations to secrecy in this matter, have thought it my duty to send a copy of your letter to the Archbishop of Canterbury." The result was the publication of the whole correspondence, and the exposure of this imposture.

Mr. Hume met a large body of his *Constituents* at Montrose, on the 13th. His chief topic was the necessity of a new and large measure of Parliamentary Reform, including household suffrage and vote by ballot. He was received with great applause, and a vote of confidence in him was unanimously agreed to.

Another *Defiance of the Ecclesiastical Titles Assumption Act* took place at Birkenhead, on Sunday, the 14th. For some days previous, a large placard appeared on the walls, bearing the following announcement:—"The St. Werburgh's Catholic Church, Birkenhead. The annual sermon, in support of St. Werburgh's schools, will be preached on Sunday, September 14. Pontifical high mass will be celebrated at eleven o'clock, and the sermon preached by the Lord Bishop of Shrewsbury. In the evening, vespers will be sung at half-past six o'clock, and the sermon preached by the Lord Bishop of Troy, after which there will be a solemn benediction." The result was, that on Sunday morning a large congregation assembled at St. Werburgh's. The altar was decorated with flowers, and there was a kind of canopy or throne, intended for the reception of "the Lord Bishop of Shrewsbury." The service was principally conducted by three priests, in vestments of cloth of gold, who appeared to act as the chaplains to the bishop. The greatest devotion was paid to the "sacred person" of the bishop, whose hands were repeatedly kissed during the ceremony by the officiating priests. On leaving the chapel many of the congregation, principally those of the poorer class, kneeled down and eagerly caught the garment of the "prelate," which they applied to their lips.

At the annual dinner of the *Bucks Agricultural Society*, at Aylesbury, on the 17th, Mr. D'Israeli delivered a long speech on the state of the landed interest. He said that the repeal of the corn-laws arose from a prevalent belief that the agriculturalists were deficient in energy, enterprise, and skill; an assertion which was wholly unfounded; that, however, he had no desire to bring back protection unless it were universally demanded by the country; and that the great object of the landed interest ought to be to obtain relief from the load of taxation which presses unduly upon the land. His address was received with great applause.

NARRATIVE OF LAW AND CRIME.

A DREADFUL *Agrarian Murder* was committed in the Queen's County, on the 25th of August. The victim was Mr. Edward White, who had purchased, a short time since, a portion of the Portarlington estate in the neighbourhood of Abbeyleix, in which village he resided. A dispute arose with some persons in the locality about the right of turbary, and some summonses to petty sessions had been issued on both sides. On the morning of the day above-mentioned, whilst Mr. White

was driving to his land, he was met on the road by a man, who stopped the gig, deliberately shot him through the heart, and then, having thrown the pistol into the vehicle, coolly walked away, when the pony proceeded on its journey, and conveyed the corpse of its master to the farm. The murder was committed within sight of hundreds of people reaping in the surrounding fields, but the slightest attempt was not made either to render assistance, or to apprehend the assassin. Mr. White had been an extensive trader in the town of Abbeyleix, for nearly forty years, and was generally esteemed and respected.

A *Remarkable Case of Imposture* has been detected at Birmingham. In November last, a book was published in London, as the "Personal Adventures of the Baroness Von Beck," a Hungarian lady, who, after her husband had been killed at the barricades of Vienna, underwent a number of exciting adventures, as a spy, for the Hungarian patriot army. Having been discovered to be an impostor, she was arrested at the instance of a Society for the Succour of Hungarian refugees, together with a young man named Constant Darra, on the charge of obtaining money on false pretences. She was to have been brought before the Birmingham magistrates on the 30th of August; but when the proceedings were about to commence, every one was shocked by the announcement that the woman was dead. She had just died in an ante-room. She had complained of illness that morning, while in prison; when brought to the court she appeared much exhausted; a chair was given to her, and she expired almost instantly. She appeared to be about fifty years of age. Constant Darra, a young man of prepossessing appearance, was placed at the bar. It was proved that there was no such person in Hungary, during the war, as Baroness Von Beck; no officer of the name Von Beck was killed at Vienna. The "Baroness" had issued prospectuses for another work; and to obtain subscribers for this had been the ostensible object of her visit to Birmingham. She had received much sympathy from persons of station and full sources of information in London; and she met with equal sympathy and very warm support in Birmingham; subscriptions were promised for "The Story of My Life," and some were paid. Mr. George Dawson took great interest in the Hungarian lady; and through his introduction she was, when unwell at a hotel, taken into the family of a solicitor at Edgbaston. There the imposture became known, and she and her secretary were arrested. Mr. Dawson was rather surprised to find that a court-lady did not speak French; he had, however, no suspicion of an imposture. Mr. Tyndale, the gentleman who received the deceased into his house, that she might have country air, said she frequently spoke of her intimacy and friendship with Kossuth with great emotion: on such occasions tears would start into her eyes. Darra had been at his house almost the whole of the time the Baroness was his guest. He passed as the secretary and agent of the Baroness. Mr. Tyndale had received about 15*l.* or 16*l.* as subscriptions for her new work, and about seventy or eighty gentlemen in addition had promised to become subscribers. Mr. Tyndale spoke highly of Darra. Mr. Paul Hajvik, formerly member of the Hungarian Diet and Chief Commissioner of police of Hungary and Transylvania, deposed that the woman's name was Rascidula; she had been a subordinate paid spy to the Hungarians; she was an Austrian woman of low birth, and extremely vulgar; she had no acquaintance with Kossuth, further than she could claim from having seen him twice to receive directions. There is a noble family in Hungary named Beck, but deceased did not belong to it. Darra, in his defence, stated that he became acquainted with the Baroness on her return from Liverpool, and that she had requested him to obtain subscriptions for her. He believed her to be what she represented herself. To him the connexion had been unfortunate, and he was sorry that he had had an acquaintance with such a woman. He was, however, quite innocent of any crime. Mr. Hajvik said he knew the father and family of the prisoner; one more noble did not exist in Hungary. The magistrates conferred for a few minutes, and then discharged the young man. Mr. Dawson said, it might appear strange and cruel that the prisoner, when suffer-

ing from illness, and who had come to so awful a death, should have been removed to a prison; but the fact was, that, on Thursday evening, she danced in a waltz, and they did not conceive, under such circumstances, that her apprehension would be followed by such lamentable results. It appeared at the inquest, that the sudden death of the woman had been caused by long standing disease of the heart.

An important *Emigration Case* was decided by the magistrates of Liverpool, on the 1st inst. A lady named Byrne with an infant and servant were entered as passengers by the ship Ashburton to New York. Mrs. Byrne, it appears, is a widow, and blind of one eye, and, after the party had gone on board, they were objected to by the captain, who alleged that a recent act, passed by the Congress of New York, prohibited him taking out such persons under a heavy penalty. The act renders the captains of vessels responsible for the maintenance of persons landed in New York who are either "lunatic, idiot, deaf, dumb, blind, infirm, maimed, above the age of sixty, under the age of thirteen, or women without husbands having families." The captain of the Ashburton having received a copy of the act before the sailing of the vessel on Friday last, refused to take Mrs. Byrne and her child, and hence arose an application under the Passenger Act to recover the amount of passage-money and compensation for breach of the contract. It was contended on behalf of the emigration agent, that he had accepted the complainants as passengers in ignorance of the act; and that offers had been made to convey Mrs. Byrne, her child and servant to New York *via* Philadelphia, and also to pay the expenses they had been at in consequence of the delay. But Mrs. Byrne objected to this mode of settlement, and the Court decided that the passage money must be returned, together with a shilling a-day each for Mrs. Byrne and her servant since the ship sailed, and 10*l.* compensation. The case excited great interest, being the first of the kind brought before the Court.

Frederick Kent, an English soldier of the 40th Regiment, now at Cork, has made a *Confession of Murder*. He says, that in July, 1841, he was walking in a place called Ash in Kent, when he met a young woman, named Betsy Court, whom he suspected of having some money. He demanded the money, which she refused to give; an altercation took place, and the result was that he dragged her into a field and murdered her with a razor. He hid the body in a corn-field, and the growing corn concealed it from view until the harvest, when it was discovered by the persons engaged in reaping. The soldier is in custody while inquiries are made.

In the Court of Bankruptcy on the 11th, Commissioner Fane gave judgment in the case of J. Holthouse, sugar-broker and wine-merchant in the Minorities. The learned judge *Refused the Bankrupt a Certificate*, and accompanied his refusal with some important observations. The bankrupt, whose effects would not pay two shillings in the pound, had brought about this result by "a systematic course of buying on short credit, of the most respectable wholesale dealers, and therefore at the lowest price that can be afforded, and almost immediately after selling for cash at a still lower price, and with the proceeds paying for goods purchased at a previous period, the credit for which had just expired, and thus constantly keeping up a delusive appearance of solvency, with the undoubted certainty that, sooner or later, the system must end in bankruptcy; the only point remaining matter of doubt being how long he could continue to pay the expenses of his own subsistence out of the property of his creditors, before some circumstance should occasion the bursting of the bubble." This practice had been carried on for many years; and two of the principal creditors, resenting the bankrupt's conduct, had refused to concur in a proposed composition. "I think," said the learned judge, "that they have acted most properly, and I heartily wish that creditors would more often imitate their conduct. In my opinion there is no more legitimate object of compassion and kindness than a debtor who has struggled honestly and diligently for a living, and has failed through the vicissitudes of trade or the knavery of

debtors, nor shall I ever cease to regret the harsh treatment which such debtors receive under the law of bankruptcy; and, on the other hand, I think that those creditors who, influenced by a desire to get an increased dividend from contributions of debtors' friends, or by enabling knaves to renew business at the expense of a new body of creditors not cognisant of their past knaveries, consent to hide away their misconduct under the cloak of compositions, are traitors to their own class, and deserve public reprobation. With these opinions, I feel it a matter of duty publicly to thank Messrs. Travers and Son and Messrs. Conway and Co., for forcing this matter into a public court of justice; and, however painful it may be to pronounce so severe a judgment, I must refuse the certificate altogether, and, as a necessary consequence, refuse protection. Personally, however, I shall certainly regret it if the application of a creditor should compel me to give the necessary certificate to authorise arrest. The Code Napoleon, I believe, forbids the arrest of a debtor after he is seventy years of age; and, although perhaps I ought not, while administering the law, to express any wish that it were otherwise than it is, I hope I shall be excused if I say that I wish that such was the law of England also." Afterwards, on the application of the bankrupt, protection was granted for three weeks, to enable him to give notice of appeal should he be so advised.

A case of *Affiliation* was heard before the magistrates of Dewsbury, on the 15th. The defendant was the Rev. Stephen Matthews, the incumbent of Hanging Heaton, near Dewsbury, the alleged father of an illegitimate child born in May last, by Mary Hellowell, a young girl of sixteen, who was engaged as a paid teacher in the school connected with the church at Hanging Heaton. The rev. defendant is a man verging upon sixty years of age, and has for many years held the incumbency of Hanging Heaton. The case was first heard at the Dewsbury Court House, on the 25th of August, when the justices declined to make an order of maintenance upon the defendant, on the ground that the evidence of the mother of the child was not corroborated in the way required by the act of Parliament. The decision gave great dissatisfaction in the neighbourhood, where the case has excited considerable attention; and the friends of the girl are determined to have a re-hearing. The court-house was crowded to suffocation during the whole day, the hearing occupying till nearly ten o'clock at night. The magistrates who heard the case, had both been present at the former hearing. The evidence went to show that the rev. defendant had seduced the girl, and that a criminal intercourse had continued for two years. The magistrates retired for half an hour; and, on their return into court, still declined to make an order upon Mr. Matthews. The solicitor who supported the application, said that he should not again trouble the magistrates with the case, but should, if he had the opportunity, take it before another tribunal.

At the Clerkenwell Police Court on the 17th, two young women, sisters, who gave their names Sarah and Rebecca Sharp, applied for assistance under very melancholy circumstances. They were servants from Thrapston, Northamptonshire, and their masters granted them a holiday, in order to come to London to see the Great Exhibition. They left Thrapston, accompanied by their sister, Anna Smith, a married woman, and her infant child, seven months old. On their arrival in London they took lodgings at a house in Besborough-street, St. Pancras, and retired to rest, with a view to attend the Exhibition on the following day. At 2 o'clock in the morning, they were awoke out of their sleep by an alarm of *Fire*, when they found the lower part of the house in flames, and they were nearly suffocated with smoke. The two girls made their escape, leaving behind them their money and everything belonging to them. Anna Smith, their sister, who with her infant slept in an apartment in the upper part of the house, found it impossible to make her escape through the flames and dense smoke, and, making her appearance at the window, she was urged to throw her infant out to the people below, and it was saved. The unfortunate mother then precipitated herself from the window, and although the spectators endeavoured to save her, she fell with great force, and

injured herself so severely that she was conveyed to the hospital in Gray's-inn road, where she lay in a very precarious state. They had lost everything they had, and were destitute, with the exception of what they wore on their persons, which were the benevolent gifts of the inhabitants of the locality in which the calamity occurred, and their object in making the application, was to solicit some aid to enable them to return home. It was found, on inquiry, that the representations made were correct, and some assistance was given them.

At the opening of the session of the *Central Criminal Court*, on the 15th, the Recorder, in his address to the grand jury, referred to the unusually small calendar. The reduction he ascribed partly to the prosperous condition of the people, and partly to an alteration of the law. The Central Criminal Court Act of 1834 took away from the Quarter-sessions of Middlesex and Westminster the jurisdiction in certain cases of felony, which it formerly possessed. The result was, that the Central Criminal Court was overwhelmed with business, which it vainly attempted to clear off by evening sittings; and the country was put to great expense by the detention of witnesses for many days at the court. By the recent act of Parliament, the ancient jurisdiction of the Middlesex Sessions was restored; and compound felonies—as burglaries and stealing in dwelling-houses—could now be tried there, to the relief of the Central Criminal Court and the Grand Jurors.

Henry Dimsdale was called upon to surrender and take his trial upon a charge of *Misdemeanour*. It will be remembered that he is one of the persons who stand charged with assaulting Mr. Jarman, the managing clerk to Mr. Humphreys, the solicitor, by pelting him with eggs upon his return from the Oaks race. The case has been adjourned over two sessions. A further postponement of the trial was now applied for, on the ground that Mr. Dimsdale, who is in custody upon civil process, was in such an ill state of health as to render it dangerous for him to undergo the excitement of a trial. The matter was ordered to stand over, to admit of an affidavit being taken as to the state of the prisoner's health. Subsequently, on the 18th, an arrangement was made that the case should be postponed, so that Mr. Dimsdale, and the other parties implicated, who had agreed to be forthcoming, should all be tried together. It was further intimated that it was the intention of the defendant to apply for a writ of *certiorari* to have the cause tried before one of the Judges of Westminster.

On the 16th the grand jury brought in true bills against a Sergeant of Metropolitan Police, and some of the officers of the South Eastern Railway, upon the prosecution of Lord Randalgh, for *Assaults and Perjury*. The bail having been fixed, the Recorder said there were cross indictments, and the others had been removed to the Queen's Bench, and he supposed it was very probable that these indictments would also be removed.

On the 17th, Joseph Brown, a Hampstead letter-carrier, was convicted of *Stealing a Letter containing Money*. His counsel urged in mitigation that he received only 13s. a week salary. Mr. Baron Martin said, that had nothing to do with the case; Brown was not obliged to accept the post if the pay was not enough: the poor were generally the sufferers by these robberies. Sentence transportation for ten years.

On the 18th, Charles Whichey, green-grocer, was tried for *Stealing*, and John Saward, a draper in the Commercial Road East, for *Feloniously Receiving* a case of merinos and mousseline-de-laine, the property of the South-western railway, to whom it had been intrusted for conveyance from Southampton to London, for Messrs. Candy. It appeared from the evidence, especially from that of William Pamplin, the man who was connected with the gold-dust robbery, that the theft was effected in this way: William Winter was foreman at Nine Elms goods-dépot; he has absconded; he took advantage of his position to cover the box with a new cloth, having a direction for "Mr. Noon, Earl Street, Finsbury"—Pamplin's lodgings. Winter was in connexion with Whichey; Pamplin allowed the box to come to his place. The three sold the property and divided the proceeds. Mr. Saward was the purchaser. He met the others at a public-house, and agreed to give 56l. for the goods; he paid the money by instalments;

he got a receipt signed "H. Roney"; the goods were called a "job lot." The wholesale value of the property thus purchased was 147*l.* Saward sold some of the merino in his shop at 4*s.* 11*d.* per yard; the wholesale value was 10*s.* 6*d.* Serjeant Wilkins contended for Saward, that he had fairly bought the goods as a "job lot," and that he had behaved like an innocent man when the officers came to his house about the goods. Several witnesses gave him a good character. The jury deliberated for three-quarters of an hour, and then found both prisoners guilty of feloniously receiving the property. They recommended Saward to mercy for his previous good character. Mr. Baron Martin remarked, that Whichever was, if anything, more guilty than Winter; such men as he gave facilities for disposing of stolen property, without which persons in Winter's position might have no inducement to rob. He sentenced Whichever to be transported for ten years. As regarded Saward, although he quite concurred in the verdict of the jury, yet it was possible that he had acted without consideration, and in an unfortunate moment had permitted himself to assist a party of robbers in disposing of their plunder; the sentence on him was one year's imprisonment.

On the 20th Mr. Fenn, the Secretary of the Royal Free Hospital in the Gray's Inn-road, waited on the sitting magistrate at Guildhall, to give an account of the contributions received from benevolent persons on account of *Jane Wilbred*, whose case excited so much public sympathy. He stated that this poor girl had been in a highly respectable family for the last five months as housekeeper's assistant, and had won the esteem of every one by her cleanliness, industry, and cheerful disposition. She had written several letters to the matron and nurse of the hospital as well as to himself, acknowledging in the most grateful terms the kindness she had received from them. From the funds which had been contributed by various benevolent persons she had been supplied with two complete sets of clothing. The total amount of money received for her was 72*l.* 3*s.* 6*d.*, out of which 8*l.* 10*s.* 6*d.* had been expended for her outfit, leaving a balance in cash of 63*l.* 16*s.* 8*d.*, which had been invested in the names of trustees for her future benefit.—Sir Peter Laurie said, the conduct of Mr. Fenn and the authorities of the Royal Free Hospital was exceedingly praiseworthy, and great credit was due to Mr. Fenn for having expended a portion of the money so economically, and disposing of the balance judiciously. He hoped that it might be the means of bringing an increase of patronage.

At the Lambeth police court on the 23rd, William Bowen, a well-dressed young man, described as a clerk, was charged with committing a most outrageous *Assault* on Eliza Smith, a young woman about 16 years of age. The complainant, an interesting looking girl, who cried very much during the examination, said that at the end of August she left her parents' home in Yorkshire for the purpose of seeking employment in London, and obtained a situation with a lady residing in York place, York-road. On Sunday night, the 21st, about 9 o'clock, she went out for a walk, and proceeded a greater distance than she intended, causing her to lose her way. She felt very much alarmed, and asked several persons the way back to York-place, when she again missed her way. While proceeding along she met the prisoner at the corner of a street, and asked him to point out to her the way home. He replied that he was going to the York-road, and he would show her the nearest way. She accompanied him up a street which she had ascertained since was Granby-street. Perceiving the railway at the end, and some carriages resembling railway vehicles, she turned round to him, and said, "Surely that could not be the way to the York-road." He replied, "Oh it's all right, it's the nearest way." When they got to the end of the street he threw her down in a recess, and assaulted her in an indecent manner. She struggled hard with him, and screamed very loud for help, but he nearly overpowered her before any one came to her assistance. Her story was confirmed by several persons who were attracted by her cries, and by a police-constable who took the man into custody. The prisoner said that the young woman had accosted him, stolen his handkerchief, and given him in

charge for a pretended assault. The magistrate said that the brutality of the assault was aggravated by the impudence of the defence, and committed the prisoner for trial. On the girl saying that she was poor, and had not the means to pay the expense of prosecuting, the magistrate told her that the expense would be paid by the county aid.

At the Middlesex Sessions, on the 24th, William Weale, was tried for an *Assault* upon John Farrel, a child of six years old. The defendant was teacher of a school connected with a Roman Catholic chapel at Islington. One day in July last, violent shrieks were heard from the school; and several neighbours, being drawn to the spot, found the little boy who had been turned out of the school, crouching outside the door; Mr. Hinchley, one of the witnesses, described the child's condition:—"I picked up the child and examined him. He was scarified from the ankle to the thigh, and his posteriors had the appearance of raw beef. He was exhausted as if from beating, and from the ankle to the calf of the leg there were wales as thick as a little finger." Mr. Huddleston, a surgeon, said: "I examined the child on the 29th of July, eight days after the occurrence. On examining his person I found his posteriors perfectly black; his thighs and legs on the right hand side particularly exhibited cuts, long, deep, and broad, some of them side by side and interlacing each other. The skin was broken in seven places. I believe the wounds would be made by such an instrument as that whip." The schoolmaster was arrested and brought before a police court. The child's father was summoned, and appeared, but refused to prosecute; and the matter, consequently, was taken up by Mr. Hinchley, who originated a subscription for the prosecution of the schoolmaster. It was pleaded in defence, that the boy had been punished for stealing a brush, and telling lies in reference to that affair; and that it was impossible to suppose that the defendant could have been actuated by any malicious feeling. The Judge, in summing up, observed that the defendant had at one time been represented, wrongly, it seemed, as a Roman Catholic priest. It was, he thought, a melancholy fact that after some 25 years, during which they had been endeavouring to treat their Roman Catholic fellow subjects as brethren, a circumstance should have arisen on the part of the Roman Catholic body which it was to be feared would have the effect not only of retarding the promotion of the feelings of amity which had taken root, and the amelioration of their supposed disabilities, but of throwing them back at least half a century in the divisions of religious feeling. The jury, in dealing with this case, had nothing to do with that; they were not to uphold Protestants against Catholics, or consider in any way what the parties were. The only question was, had the defendant exceeded his duty as a schoolmaster, and had he thereby transgressed the law? The jury found the defendant guilty of a common assault, but under aggravated circumstances. The counsel for the prosecution then said that the cries of the children had been frequently heard from the same school since this occurrence; and it was clear that defendant was a person unfit to be in the position of a schoolmaster. The judge hoped the superiors of the school would never suffer anything of the kind to take place there again. He agreed with the verdict of the jury, and was of opinion that the defendant ought never again to be allowed to fill the situation of schoolmaster; for it was quite clear that he had no mastery or control over his passions in his treatment of pupils. The defendant was then sentenced to three months' imprisonment in the House of Correction.

At the above Sessions, on the same day, William Dugdale, a bookseller in Holywell street, was tried on the charge of having in his possession for the purpose of sale, *Obscene Books and Prints*. The prosecution was at the instance of the Society for the Prosecution of Vice. It was proved that, in consequence of an information, the defendant's premises were searched by the police, and a seizure was made of a large quantity of French lithographic prints, some lithographic stones ready for press, copper plates, books, coloured engravings, &c., the whole of which were of a most abominable description. Ultimately they took away

from the premises 882 books, 3870 prints, 110 catalogues, 9 lithographic stones, several copper plates, and 16 cwt. and 9 lb. of letter-press unsewn, altogether two heavy cart loads. A number of them were produced in court and submitted to the jury. It was contended, in defence, that the officers had no legal right to enter the premises, and that as there was no count in the indictment charging the defendant with exposing the articles to sale, there was no evidence upon which the indictment could go to a jury. The jury found the prisoner guilty; and, it having been urged in aggravation that the defendant had previously been three times convicted of the same offence, the judge sentenced him to two years' imprisonment in the House of Correction, and afterwards to find sureties, himself in 50*l.*, and two others in 25*l.*, for his good behaviour for one year further.

Samuel Lacey, a boy ten years old, was charged, on the 25th, at the Clerkenwell Police Court, with having *Injured the Electric Telegraph* of the London and Blackwall Railway. Bailey, an officer, stated that he saw the defendant on the bridge near the Weavers' Arms, Stoke Newington, deliberately throw a piece of granite, full 3 lbs. weight, upon the wires of the electric telegraph, which were slightly injured in consequence. He immediately took him into custody, when he admitted the offence, and excused himself by stating that he had flung the stone at a bird which was perching on the wire, and he was not aware that he could do harm. Mr. Tyrwhitt wished to know how the company desired he should deal with the defendant. A gentleman said, they were anxious an example should be made, for the offence had become so serious and frequent, that the company had lately offered a reward of 100*l.* for the detection and conviction of a person guilty of the offence attributed to the defendant. Mr. Tyrwhitt said he must either discharge the prisoner or commit him for trial; the charge for wilfully damaging any portion of an electric telegraph being, in law, a misdemeanour, and rendering a person convicted of it liable to twelve months' imprisonment. It certainly was an abominable offence, calculated to lead to disastrous consequences in many ways. Could, however, the defendant be said to have wilfully, within the meaning of the act, committed the offence? The gentleman representing the company said he thought not, and he would leave the case in the hands of the court. The prisoner's mother stepped forward, and begged mercy for her child, who, she was sure, would not again be guilty of such an act. She would be answerable for his future good conduct. Mr. Tyrwhitt stated that under those circumstances he would deliver him to her care, and, after a suitable admonition, he was set at liberty.

John Morris was tried at the Middlesex Sessions, on the 25th, for an *Assault* on Maria Cook, the wife of a police constable. Mrs. Cook, and a female friend, were returning home from a visit at the house of a relative, between 12 and 1 o'clock in the morning; as they were crossing some gardens near Bethnal-green, Mrs. Cook noticed the defendant following them. He got close to them, and remarked that it was rather late for young ladies like them to be out at that hour, but this was unnoticed, and he repeated the observation, and Mrs. Cook then replied that it was no business of his. He then put his hand upon her shoulder, and she desired him to desist, informing him that there was plenty of room for him to pass on the other side of the way. He then proceeded to commit an act of gross indecency upon her. She screamed, told him she was a married woman, and endeavoured to get away from him, and her friend ran in advance to get a policeman. She could not find one, and learning from Mrs. Cook's cries that the defendant was persisting in his conduct, she returned, and tried to her utmost to pull him away, but she could not, and she again ran to get an officer. She was successful this time, and on the officer arriving at the spot, he found the defendant still assaulting the prosecutrix in the same indelicate manner, and he seized him by the collar, and Mrs. Cook gave him into custody. The jury found the defendant guilty of a common assault, and the Court sentenced him to three months' imprisonment in the House of Correction.

A number of *Omnibus Proprietors* were summoned on the 22d before the sitting magistrate at Guildhall,

for not having the *Table of Fares painted inside their Carriages*, in conformity with the act of parliament. All that was visible was, "To or from the Crystal Palace, 6*d.*," the omission, it was stated, being made to enable the driver to stop his carriage at any part of London he pleased, turn all his customers out, stating "he went no further," and make each one pay the six-penny fare, while he would return directly for another load, and serve them the same. Alderman Wilson said he should not only protect the public against such tricks, but he would support the honest proprietor against the frauds of the dishonest ones, for he knew full well, from innumerable complaints, as well as practical experience, that the fares were so set out inside for no other purpose than to cheat the public. The omnibuses which usually run to the Bank (and some even much further) would, at the close of the Exhibition, and more particularly if a shower of rain came on, stop at Charing-cross, Temple-bar, or St. Paul's, and saying, "We go no further," turn the passengers out in the rain, point to the fare of 6*d.* on the door, and immediately return for another load of victims. The proprietors had the privilege of charging what they pleased, either 4*d.*, 6*d.*, or 5*s.*; but then they must at the same time say precisely what this was for, and indeed this was generally done, the disreputable portion of the proprietors forming the exception. He fined the defendants 20*s.* and costs in each case; and desired the police to continue their vigilance in bringing up every proprietor so offending.

NARRATIVE OF ACCIDENT AND DISASTER.

MANY *Railway Accidents* have occurred during the month. The most disastrous occurred on the evening of Saturday the 6th, at the Bicester station of the Buckinghamshire Railway. An excursion train left the Euston station for Oxford. It consisted of fourteen carriages, and there were about two hundred passengers on their way to Oxford. The train left London about five o'clock, and approached the Bicester station at a rapid rate at half-past seven. On passing the "points" the engine became disconnected from the tender, went off the line from the right, knocked down the farther gate-post by the side of the turnpike-road for Aylesbury, which crosses the line on the level, and approached close to the porch of the station-master's house, which in all probability would have been forced down but for one of the rails becoming twisted round the wheel of the engine, and the ponderous machine becoming embedded in the sand. The three carriages next to the engine went off the line to the left, knocked down the opposite gate-post to that razed by the engine, and went over with a dreadful crash. One of the carriages went over on its side into the turnpike road, another also went completely over, and the iron-work crushed it in, and from the third the bottom was torn off. Endeavours were forthwith used to assist the sufferers. Some had thrown themselves out of the carriages, others were unable to do so, and some were dead. The work of extrication lasted till morning. Besides many who were seriously injured, the following persons were killed:—Corporal Noon, of the 7th company of the Royal Sappers and Miners. He is the son of a builder at Oxford, and had leave of absence from Kensington Barracks. Mrs. Sheldon and infant child, of Ashley place, Oxford. Elizabeth Easley, a young woman of about 18, from London.—Carrier, a lad of about 14, son of the driver of the engine; and James Luckett, a young man who was on his way to Oxford. An inquest on the bodies of the dead commenced on the 8th, at Bicester. The following extracts from the evidence of passengers, will give an idea of the terrible nature of the accident. Mr. William Bolton heard a cracking and crushing, and "resigned himself to bear what might come"—"The whole bore down as with a clap of thunder. I don't know any more. It took three hours and a half to saw me out from underneath the carriages. I could not see any lights, for I lay with my face to the ground. The man lying over me was also

sensible. We talked to one another, and tried to persuade each other to lie as still as possible. He asked me to pull off his handkerchief; which I managed to do. I knew I was on the ground by the earth getting up my nostrils. It was quite dark. I could feel pressure across the lower part of my back and across the groin; I felt no pressure about my head or shoulders. My head was fixed. There was room for me to move my hands and undo the handkerchief of the man across whom I was lying. It was impossible for me to extricate myself. The lower part of the body was quite dead. From lying so long I was quite benumbed." Mr. James Smith, accountant, of Camden Town, gave this evidence—"Before the carriage was overthrown, I was thrown from my seat on my back. All was confusion. More than three hours elapsed before I was extricated. I spoke to the poor soldier as he was lying across me. There was a crush, and I felt an immense weight on my body, so that I could hardly breathe. There was great pressure on the lower part of my body. It was quite dark at that time. Before the accident it was getting dark. I had not space to move. I could not move my hands; my body was completely jammed in. I could just move my head. I did not once lose my recollection. I was certainly for three hours in that position. I knew that it was the soldier who was beside me, for I felt his epaulettes. There was no other soldier in uniform. His legs and the lower part of his body were thrown across my body. I presume he died very quickly: I heard him groan; after that I did not hear him again. I spoke to him and then I found he was a corpse. His head was leaning on my right shoulder, his face turned towards me; so that had he breathed I should have known. I heard him groan after the crash, as we were thrown down; after that I heard him neither speak nor breathe. I am anxious to speak of a boy who came to my assistance, for I think my life was saved by him. When the wood-work was sawn away so that my face could be seen, a wet handkerchief was put down to me. The boy crept through the aperture which had been made, and held down a wet handkerchief to me, with great danger, I believe, to himself. Without that I should have fainted. I have since heard that the boy's name is King, and that he is the son of a widow in Bicester." Among the witnesses not in the train, who saw the accident, were several persons who were waiting for the arrival of their friends, under the impression that the train would stop at Bicester. John Scott, a butcher, saw the engine coming one way and the train go the other; and as he saw the engine running towards him, he "bolted into the porch—a bad place." The engine came on, and stopped within two feet of the station-master's house; it would have gone into the house but that a rail curled up and entangled itself in the wheel so as to stop the engine. A number of the railway officials and other persons whose evidence was calculated to throw light on the subject, were examined; and, after an investigation which lasted five days, the jury on the 15th returned a verdict, "That the deceased died from accidental causes;" appending to it special observations on the causes of the accident. These observations are long and detailed; but their substance is compressed in the following passages:—"The jury find that the railway upon which the lamentable event occurred is a branch line from the London and North-Western Railway, diverging at Blethley to Oxford through Bicester, and that from Steeple Claydon to Oxford is a single line only. The jury find that the train to which the accident occurred was not only an excursion train advertised by public notice for passengers to leave London on Saturday and to return on the following Monday, but it also formed a return excursion train for passengers who had left Oxford for London on the previous Monday, as well as for those who had left Oxford and Bicester on the previous Tuesday. The jury find that the notices to the public of these excursion trains were imperfectly and vaguely drawn, for while the company's officers at Bicester construed them to mean that the Saturday's excursion train from London to Oxford was to call at Bicester, the officers at Blethley construed them to mean that they should not stop at Blethley but go through to Oxford; and the jury consider that both of those constructions might be fairly

adopted without the imputation of any neglect of duty on their part as arising from such cause. The jury find that the company's servants at Bicester were prepared for the train to stop there for the Bicester passengers to alight, but that the engineman in charge of the train acted upon the belief that he was to go through to Oxford without stopping at Bicester, and that such a misunderstanding had a tendency to produce confusion in the arrangements, and required more than ordinary vigilance to be paid to the points and signals; and the jury consider that there was a want of adequate instruction to the guards from their superior officers as to the stoppages of the train to be consistent with the public safety. That, while the jury find that there was not that measure of culpability in the conduct of any of the company's servants as to warrant the finding of an adverse verdict against any of them, yet they feel that it is due to the public safety that some greater means of protection to life and property than now exists should be resorted to by the company, and that in the monopoly which railways have achieved in travelling, the lives of passengers should not be jeopardised at the shrine of interest and dividends. The jury find that a single line of railway necessarily involves more danger to passengers than a double one, by reason of the trains having to pass over junction-points in the one case which would not be required in the other. They also find that trains are occasionally delayed at the stations to prevent collision with other trains, and hence that the enginemen on duty are induced to travel at a greater speed than is consistent with safety on a single line of railway, in order to observe the times appointed for their arrival at stations. These and other matters of more minute detail impose upon the company's servants a degree of watchfulness and care on a single line of railway almost superhuman; and that the pointsman, in the discharge of his duties, is liable, from a mere accidental slip or fall, or from a want of nerve, or that presence of mind which is so essential in cases of difficulty and danger, to be the innocent or accidental cause of destruction to life and property. The jury, therefore, earnestly urge upon the directors of the company, as they value human life and deplore the sacrifice of it, that they will cause a second line of rails to be laid down without delay, as a means of preventing the recurrence of such a dire calamity as that which has now formed the subject of their very anxious inquiry and most painful deliberation."

A *Serious Accident* happened on the Great-Northern Railway on the evening of the 8th. Exhibition-trains start from Hull and Lincoln, which should meet at Boston, and be united there into a single train to London. On the above evening, the Lincoln train was behind its time at Boston, and the station-master sent on the Hull train by itself. At Hornsey the Hull train discovered an obstruction ahead: a passenger-train, which ought to have been half an hour forward, was standing still. It was found that a luggage-train had broken down, and stopped the line. The guards having been sent back properly, the passenger-train and the Hull excursion-train had been in succession safely stopped. At last the lameness of the luggage-engine was cured, and it was just getting into motion, when there was a cry that another train was coming up at full speed from the North. It was the Lincoln excursion-train, which had been too late to join the train from Hull at Boston. Desperate efforts were made to start the standing-trains; but it was plain that neither these could be got forward, nor the arriving train be stopped, in time to prevent collision: so a shout was raised of "Jump, jump!" As many of the passengers as had presence of mind and activity enough did jump, and scramble up the bank into the fields. One of them looked back, and describes what he saw. "The last carriage was smashed to atoms, as also the next; the third was lifted right off the rails up into the air, and seemed to fall over topsyturvy on to the down-line of rails. The passengers were jumping in myriads from the carriages. Some appeared to throw themselves out of the shattered carriages, leaping through the broken sides. The engineers, &c., threw themselves off just before the collision." Numbers had their faces covered with blood, but there was no instant death, and only one injury which seemed likely to be fatal. The Rev. Mr. Snell, of Fleet, near Holbeach, suffered a

dangerous concussion of the spine. There is no authentic and conclusive evidence fixing the blame in any particular quarter.

On the morning of the 8th, as a train from Shields and Sunderland was passing the bridge crossing the High-street, Gateshead, and approaching the high-level bridge crossing the Tyne, it ran into two engines standing on the line. The passengers were knocked about, many of them receiving serious bruises on the head and face, though none of them were dangerously hurt.

On Tuesday evening, the 9th, as a special train was leaving Ratcliffe-bridge station, on the East Lancashire line, for Bury, with passengers who had been to Ratcliffe races, a female named Taylor, who had just arrived on the platform with her two daughters, made a rush at the last carriage but one to get upon the steps, but missed the handle of the door, and fell by the side of the train. The poor woman was dragged between the footboard and the platform a short distance, when her legs got across the rails, and were passed over by the wheels of the last carriage. One of her limbs was nearly severed from the body, and the other was dreadfully crushed. She was carried to a public-house near the railway, and surgical assistance obtained, but she died in a few hours.

On the 10th a *Collision* took place on the Midland Railway, near Nottingham, whereby a stoker lost his life. A luggage train had moved half-a-mile out of the station in the morning, and then waited for additions—remaining on the main line, not in a siding. Some time after, a passenger-train came up; the atmosphere was thick, and the stationary train was not seen till too late; when the driver saw the danger, he called to his stoker to jump off. The driver jumped himself, and escaped with some bruises; but the stoker was crushed between the engine and break-ran—engine, tender, and break, having been smashed. The passengers were violently shaken and bruised. An inquest on the stoker's body began the following day. The driver and the guard of the passenger-train proved that they left Nottingham at three minutes past seven; the luggage-train should have left at half past six. The morning was foggy, and the train was not seen till it was too late to prevent a collision. There were no fog-signals, nor had a guard from the luggage-train gone back along the line to signal any approaching train. At Nutford Gate, a short distance from where the luggage-train was standing, the driver of the passenger-train was informed that the line was clear. The driver believed that the luggage-train was waiting for one of its guards. The jury found a verdict of manslaughter against John Bower, who ought to have warned the train which ran into the other train, but neglected to give the warning till too late. The jury recommended also the dismissal of Royce, a porter, who overslept himself on the morning of the accident.

The extensive premises of Messrs. Horne, coach-makers in Long-acre, were discovered to be on *Fire*, on the morning of the 31st ult. Before the fire could be got under, property was destroyed to the amount of several thousand pounds.

Seven Young Girls were *Drowned* in the river Tyne, on the 1st inst. A steamboat from Newcastle to Marsden Rock, on a pleasure trip, stopped at Howden to take in passengers. A sculler-boat put off, with seventeen or eighteen passengers on board, and had scarcely got twenty yards from the shore, when it was driven by the tide athwart two vessels lying in the stream of the cbbing tide, when it was upset, and the whole of the passengers immersed in the water. Assistance was difficult to render, and seven perished, the others having been rescued with great difficulty. The boat was over crowded, but great want of management and precaution is attributed to the boatmen. The seven drowned were all young women, from twelve to twenty-one years of age.

An inquest has been held near Epworth, upon the bodies of a father and daughter, Reuben and Ann Leggott, the young woman had *Drowned Herself*, and the father had *Perished in attempting to save her*. There had been some disagreement between Mrs. Leggott and her daughter, and in the quarrel the father interfered, remarking that he did not know what was to

be done with the girl. The latter said, hastily, that she knew what was to be done with her, and walked out of the house. In a few moments screams were heard, and on running out in the direction of the sound, the parents saw that their daughter had thrown herself into a deep pit, which had been made in the progress of some operations upon the neighbouring land. The father instantly plunged in, in the hope of saving his child, but she clung to him so tightly that he was unable to extricate himself, and the sides of the pit being nearly perpendicular, both were drowned before any assistance could be rendered.

Fourteen Men Perished by a *Colliery Accident* at Aberdare, on the 4th inst. As they were descending a pit, the chain broke, the carriage fell 180 feet, and every man was killed on the spot. At the inquest on their bodies, Mr. Matthew Mills, the coal agent, gave the following account of the accident:—"About half-past seven there were more than twenty persons waiting to go down. At length the hitcher at the bottom of the pit intimated that they might descend; and on that being said, several men jumped into the bucket. The breaksmen asked them why they went in before the catch-bolt had been withdrawn. All left the bucket then, and returned to it as soon as the bolt had been withdrawn. I told them not to go down that way—there were too many going down, as they overcrowded the platform on the bucket; and some of them then jumped back. I wanted to see that everything was right. I took hold of two, Edmund Williams and David Lewis, and two or three others came out of their own accord. I said to them, 'Do not push in that manner, or else, some time or other, you will push one another down to the pit.' When the bucket went down they were not too many; the balance was rather light. I was not angry with them because their weight would be too much, but because they were rushing on so incautiously, and would not go in an orderly way. David Lewis, whom I pulled back, would go down, and was killed. The bucket went down very slowly, as there was barely sufficient weight to balance it. I watched it for three yards, as I happened to be standing there. There were eleven persons in it. I then went from four to five yards back, and I heard a sound as if something was breaking." He turned round, and saw what had happened. It was found that some iron-work had broken. The maker of the chain was examined; but no blame was thrown on him. The verdict of the coroner's jury was—"Accidental death, caused by the breaking of the iron rods which connected the cross and the bucket. But the jury cannot separate without expressing their disapproval of the present system of letting workmen go down to their work the same way as materials are got up; and they recommend that lifts should be made in all similar works, so as to enable the workmen to go to work without any danger."

The Apollo, screw steam-ship, was *Wrecked* on the Kentish Knock shoal, about forty miles from the entrance of the Thames, on the night of the 6th. She had left Rotterdam in the morning with a heavy cargo of live stock and provisions. When she struck, the crew and passengers were saved with difficulty and got on board a sloop which happened to be near, but all the cattle and sheep perished. Several hundred carcasses were picked up and brought into Ramsgate and Broadstairs.

A Spanish Merchantman was *Wrecked* off Margate, on Sunday morning the 7th inst. The lugger Nelson, cruising in the neighbourhood of the Sunken Light, observed a flag of distress flying from a boat at some miles distance, and immediately put off to render assistance. They found it to contain nine Spanish sailors, and to be in an almost sinking state, the stern being completely stove in. The men having been taken on board the Nelson, it was ascertained that they comprised the crew of the Spanish brig Cervantes, from Christiansand to Barcelona, with a cargo of salt fish, which had run on shore on the Long Sands in the night. The crew stood by their vessel until five o'clock in the morning, when, finding that their vessel was going to pieces, they took to the only boat left to them out of three, in which they remained until they were picked up by the lugger.

Another fatal *Colliery Accident* has happened near

Bristol. Nine persons were ascending the shaft of the Deep Pit, at Kingswood, and they had arrived in safety as far as "the stage," where the men usually get out of the bucket. Just at this juncture, to the dismay of the engineer Stone, who was superintending the hauling up of the men, the bolt of the reversing handle broke off. Being aware of the consequences that would follow, he laid hold of the eccentric and endeavoured to lift them; and, finding he could not effect this by himself, he called out to a man to come to his assistance; but before the rods could be lifted, the accident happened. Stephen Newman sprang out, but jumped short, and, falling down the shaft, a depth of 147 fathoms, was dashed in pieces. Another man and a lad jumped out with safety; but the others were drawn up over the "shiver-wheel," and were thrown, together with the heavy iron bucket, weighing about three and a half hundred-weight, to the ground, a distance of twenty-five feet. All were seriously hurt, and it was necessary to amputate the leg of one of them. An inquest was held on Newman's body, at which it appeared that the accident had arisen from the negligence of Stone, the engineer. The evidence showed that he was at the mouth of the shaft when he ought to have been attending the steam engine; he went into the engine-house only just before the bucket arrived at the surface. Notice had been given that a "journey" of men was coming up, and he should have stood by the engine. But it appeared that the men did not always come up after notice had been sent. The evidence as to the speed with which the men ascended was rather contradictory; but no alarm was felt till the bucket rose beyond its proper height. Stone when at the shaft had asked another man if he thought it was a journey of men coming up?—a question which implied that he did not consider the notice given was a sufficient proof that men were really coming up. The case against Stone rested on the fact that he was absent from his engine till the men had almost reached the surface; that the pin must have received a very violent blow to break it; and that it was highly probable from his neglecting to check speed as the bucket ascended, and his having gone to the engine-house only as the men came to the surface, he had made so violent an effort to stop the engine that the pin snapped. The jury gave a verdict of "Man-slaughter against Stone."

A poor man named John Carson *Died of Hydrophobia*, on the 9th, at Banbridge, near Newry. His hand was slightly bit on the 23rd of June by a stray dog which he had found and brought home, and which died two days afterwards. The wound healed in a few days, without giving him any uneasiness of mind, and he continued in the enjoyment of good health up to Sep. 4, when he passed a very restless night. On the morning of the 6th, medical aid was called in, but in vain. On that and the two following days he was quite sensible, and talked seriously about his death with different clergymen who visited him. He changed, became slightly delirious, muttered unconnected sentences, in dread of everything, and thought the different people around him were conspiring to destroy him. When visited by the medical men he said "they were a parcel of murdering villains, and that they had killed him, for which he would have revenge by day or by night." He was now secured, but so slightly, that he broke loose, seized a stick, and had no difficulty in clearing the house, as all fled before him. No one dared subsequently to enter, until a police-constable voluntarily came forward, entered and seized him, and was the main hand in properly securing him, while he attempted to bite the people about him. He continued in this until six o'clock on the morning of the 9th, when he, by degrees, became insensible, and, between nine and ten o'clock, death put an end to his sufferings. During the whole time his dread of fluids was excessive, and even bringing a handkerchief near his face brought on the spasms, which prevented an attempt to relieve him by the inhalation of chloroform.

A *Fatal Accident* happened on the 8th, in the village of Ballyclare, in Antrim. A gentleman was delivering a lecture on Electro-biology to a crowded assemblage, in a large loft in an old paper-mill, when the floor gave way, and the persons present were precipitated to the floor below. Three persons, one of them Mr. Robert

How, mill-owner of Ballynure, were killed on the spot, and fifty or sixty were injured, many of them dangerously.

A *Singular Accident* has occurred on the Forth and Clyde canal. A heavily-laden scow, proceeding from Glasgow down the canal, came in collision with a schooner, and was capsized. The men on board got to land, but in the cabin were a woman and child; the boat had been turned completely over, and the water did not enter the cabin; for half an hour the woman's screams were heard. The men hastened to cut a hole in the bottom of the boat; but their well-meant zeal was fatal: no sooner was a hole made, than the air escaped from the cabin, and the water rushing in from below to supply its place, both mother and child perished.

At Strontian, eight persons, who had been attending the Gaelic service in the Free Kirk, attempted to cross a ferry in a small punt; it sank, twenty-five yards from the further shore, and four women and a man were *Drowned*. The three other passengers were rescued by a boat which put off to their aid.

Mrs. Johnson, a widow of the great age of ninety-one, has been killed at Walworth by *Falling from a Window* while wandering about the upper part of a house at night in her sleep. She was under the care of a nurse, who was not aware that she had left her bed till roused by a young man who saw her fall upon the pavement.

The Oriental Company's steamer Pacha was *Lost* in the Straits of Malacca, on the night of the 21st of July. On her voyage from Singapore to Penang, the Pacha met her consort, the steam-ship Erin. The two ships sighted each other in the night; and the lights of each were first seen by the other at a distance of 9 miles. From some unexplained fatality, the vessels during all that distance continued to bear down on each other, and ultimately came into collision. The Pacha sank almost instantly, and sixteen persons were drowned. Among the lost were Dr. Briscoe, surgeon of the Fifty-ninth regiment, a French gentleman named Hardouin, and two Chinese passengers; the rest were petty officers and seamen of the crew. A letter from a passenger on board the Pacha gives the following particulars of the catastrophe:—"The Erin cut right into the middle of the Pacha. I heard the captain, Miller, sing out, 'Starboard, hard a starboard,' and I knew there was something wrong directly. I jumped up, put on my trousers, and ran on deck; but before I could get up the companion the Erin was right into the starboard side, and the Pacha's foremast went directly. I ran forward and was coming aft again, when the first engineer told me the forehold was full of water and the ship gradually settling down, which she was. We ran aft to the quarter boats, and the people were lowering them down. I went to the companion for a tomahawk to cut them away. The people were crowding into them, so I got one of the life-buoys and put it on, and just then the Pacha gave a plunge, and went down head foremost. I had only time to jump and clear the rail and boats' davits. The Pacha in going down sucked me under a considerable distance. It was certainly an awful moment to hear and see the waters gurgling and darkening over head; but thank God, in a short time I rose and found myself among a heap of spars and I cannot tell what of the wreck. The scene around was a fearful one. The Erin was a short distance off, with the forepart of her nearly gone; and to hear the poor fellows around me crying out for somebody to come and save them was heart-rending. The Erin immediately lowered down her boats and picked up fifteen of us that were floating about—the remainder were got up the bows of the Erin. It is certainly miraculous how so many were saved, as it was only four minutes from the time of the collision taking place to the time of the Pacha's sinking, and the Erin nearly as bad. When we got on board she was going fast down by the head; however, they got a sail round the bows of the vessel, and after being there for three hours, we went on to Singapore, where we arrived on the 22nd, at 2.30 p.m., and next morning there was 7 feet of water in the engine-room, all the opium in the forehold ruined, and a great deal in the after one. There is not one of us that has saved a rag of clothes. I had nothing on but a shirt and trousers."

The East India trader Randolph, of London, was wrecked on the coast of the Mauritius, on the night of the 25th of July, immediately after she had taken her departure from Port Louis for Calcutta. She had on board 250 steerage passengers, natives, consisting of men, women, and children, for Calcutta; also Lieut. Holland and Ensign Scott, of the 48th Regiment. Near midnight a cry was raised of "Breakers ahead," and the captain found that he was close to a dangerous reef of rocks, upon which the ship immediately struck, and fell over on her beam-ends. As the vessel went over the scramble for life amongst the crew became desperate. Men, women, and children were seen hanging to and crawling up the sides of the wreck. Some fell into the surf, and by clinging to floating spars preserved themselves, while others were swept away, and met with a watery grave, Ensign Scott being amongst those who perished. In the morning, daylight disclosed their actual position. Land was observed two miles distant, the space between the wreck and the beach being studded with small, steep, dangerous patches of rock. The boats happily remained whole; with great exertions, all the survivors were safely landed; and the chief officer, Mr. Scott, was despatched to Port Louis, about thirty miles distant, with intelligence of the calamity. The governor immediately forwarded a steamer to the spot, and on its arrival it was found that she could render little service; the ship was fast breaking up, and the cargo scattered in all directions. It was found that, besides Ensign Scott, who was a young man of one-and-twenty, between 20 and 30 of the passengers, and two of the crew, had perished.

SOCIAL, SANITARY, AND MUNICIPAL PROGRESS.

A BANQUET was given at Bangor, on the 27th of August, to Mr. Robert Stephenson, in commemoration of the successful accomplishment of the great works at the Menai and Conway Straits, Colonel Douglas Pennant, M.P., was in the chair; above 300 gentlemen of the principality were present, and many men distinguished in the world of science. In acknowledging the toast proposed by the Chairman, Mr. Stephenson made a most interesting speech, in the course of which he eloquently enlarged on the great benefits which England has experienced from the formation of railways. "Their influence on society," he said, "has not been to give the prodigious impetus to that commercial prosperity which has been so long the distinguishing feature of our country, but they have thrown and diffused a happiness throughout every corner of our happy land; and more especially, of all public works which man ever conceived, they have, I believe, diffused more comfort to the working man than any other. They have raised him, in point of locomotion, to a level with the peer of the realm. They have carried comfort and warmth to his hearth, by means from which he could never derive it before. And the question naturally arises, how has all this been accomplished? what peculiarity or circumstance in our social condition has rendered us able, in so short a period as twenty years, to realise this, the last degree of this most stupendous system of improvement? I answer, we have been enabled to do it from one circumstance alone—that is, the abundance and cheapness of iron. That consideration, gentlemen, reminds me of an instance that occurred the other day in Copenhagen, when I was visiting a large museum, in company of a very learned professor, who had wasted a whole life in the study of the history of the life of man; of a gentleman who had spent a life in studying and collecting a museum of the productions and inventions of mankind, from the lowest depths of barbarism to the highest state of civilisation. It was, gentlemen, one of the most interesting lectures I ever experienced and listened to in my life. He was enthusiastic, and intelligent, and accomplished; and he accompanied me throughout the whole of the exhibition. He explained and pointed out to me what were the first tools which man had used—they were all composed of bones or hard stone. They had no hatchets or implements like ours then, and nothing in the shape even of

a fishhook but a bone. He traced the advance and progress of man, up to a state a little nearer and a little more perfect; and he called my attention to this fact,—'Now, you perceive what has been the progress of man up to that point; but as soon as he discovered iron, mark after that time how rapid his advances were.' Those advances were rapid, it is true, for man then invented the cross-bow, the musket, the armour, and so on. I did not make this digression, gentlemen, for the purpose of expressing what took place in the exhibition to which I have been referring, but rather to express to you what train of thought the lecture or observations of this gentleman produced on my mind. I thought he was quite right that iron was a great civiliser, but how little does the philosopher or professor comprehend what iron is doing about him? He has been busy investigating ancient history, and not in appreciating what has been going on around him, as I am. I might have stated that in England has been produced from the bowels of the earth in the last twenty years more rude stone than, when converted into railway bars, and laid end to end, would form an iron girdle round the earth itself. I might have said that we are daily producing from the bowels of the earth a raw material, in its crude state apparently of no worth, but which, when converted into a locomotive engine, flies with a speed exceeding that of the bird, and advances wealth and comfort throughout the country. These are the powers of iron."

An American yacht has proved her superiority to those of British build, hitherto regarded as unrivalled. At the great annual regatta at Cowes, on the 22nd of August, the prize was gained by the "America," belonging to the American yacht squadron, which distanced all her competitors, eighteen of the finest vessels of our yacht clubs. The contest excited the strongest interest, and was witnessed by Her Majesty. An attempt was afterwards made by Mr. Robert Stephenson to recover for his country the honour yielded to the United States on this occasion. He started his iron yacht, "Titania," a vessel built on the most approved principles, against the America, to sail from the Nab light, twenty miles out and back. The match took place on the 28th, and the "Titania" was as signally beaten as any of the yachts at the Cowes regatta.—The "America" has since been purchased by the Hon. Captain de Blaquiére, for the sum of 5000*l.* sterling. Our yacht proprietors are beginning to imitate the construction of the America.

Messrs. Braham's Padlock, many years exhibited in their window in Piccadilly, with an offer of two hundred guineas to any one who should pick or open it, has been opened by Mr. Hobbs, an American locksmith. Mr. Hobbs having accepted the challenge, Mr. George Rennie, F.R.S., Professor Cowper, of King's College, and Dr. Black, of Kentucky, were appointed arbitrators. These gentlemen, on the 2nd inst., declared their opinion that Mr. Hobbs had fairly opened the lock, and awarded to him the two hundred guineas, which Messrs. Braham have paid.

Public Baths and Washhouses were opened at Greenwich on the 1st inst. The building and freehold ground cost 10,000*l.* The baths are at the west entrance of the town, nearly opposite the Railway station; the style is Elizabethan. There are forty-two separate baths, two plunge baths, and twenty wash-tubs. The plunge baths are not yet ready for use. On the first day there were 366 bathers, including 22 women. Annual tickets are issued at a guinea.

Some time since, Lord Seymour purchased the Gate House, in the High Street, Totness, at a cost of about 1000*l.*, presented it to the inhabitants, fitly furnished for a Mechanics' Institute, library, and reading-room. The principal residents of all parties and sects acknowledged the gift, on the 2nd inst., by a public dinner to the donor.

Extensive works for the improvement of navigation and the Reclamation of Land are in progress at King's Lynn. Messrs. Peto and Betts are executing a contract by which a new channel, 4 miles long, 30 feet deep, 265 feet in width at bottom, and 518 at the surface, will extend from the town into the Wash, while 30,000 acres of land will be reclaimed. Since December last, 1200 men have been employed, and the work goes on well.

A rich bed of Iron-stone, of great extent, has been

discovered near Whitby. At a recent meeting of the Leeds Northern Railway Company, Mr. Jackson, government inspector of mines, made a report of the discovery, in his private capacity. According to the document read by him, "the principal seam varies from ten to fifteen feet in thickness; and there are two smaller seams lying below it, varying in thickness from six inches to two feet each." He declares that "in quantity it is inexhaustible," and "the cost of working it is a mere trifle." It contains thirty-three per cent of iron in the uncalcined stone. He concludes, "There is little doubt of its creating a greater revolution in the iron-trade than that which resulted from the discovery of the black band in Scotland. In no part of the country could iron be produced so cheaply as in this district. The Cleveland Hills will become the centre of the largest iron district in England."

Several instances have occurred of *Hostility to the Ragged Schools* on the part of the poor Irish population, apparently excited by their priests. On the 30th of August, a complaint was made to the Southwark magistrate of annoyance by Irish to a school at Gravel-lane. Daniel Manning, an Irish lad, was charged by Mr. Davis, the curate of Christchurch, Blackfriars-road, with breaking two windows in the school-room. Mr. Davis said, the Irish children were incited to annoy the teachers and children of the Ragged School; and Manning had abused the schoolmistress, and thrust two dogs into the room. There are Roman Catholic schools opposite. Mr. Davis said there was no attempt at proselytism in the Ragged School: the children were taught their duty to God and their neighbour, and merely repeated the Lord's Prayer at the commencement and close of the school. There were a great many very poor old people residing in the neighbourhood, and on Sundays divine service was performed in the school-room; but the conduct of the low Irish and their children, their intimidation and disgusting language, prevented the well-disposed from attending. The magistrate characterised this as scandalous, and directed that the superintendent of police should be informed of it, that he might station an officer at the place for a time. He fined the prisoner 3s. and costs, with three days' imprisonment in default of payment.—A Ragged School in the neighbourhood of Cavendish-square, was lately visited by a priest, who came in procession, with burning tapers, and demanded the names of the children attending the school.

The *Grammar School at Tamworth* was founded in 1520 by the father of the late Sir Robert Peel, and 100 boys were educated in it entirely at his cost, each boy receiving a suit of clothes annually, and a shilling loaf of bread. At his death a sum of 6000*l.* was bequeathed to his son for the same purpose. The original school building being considered inadequate, the late Sir Robert built a new one in 1837, and made some alterations in the establishment. He never ceased to take a deep interest in this school, but his attention was specially devoted to it on his retirement from the government of the country. In 1850 he resolved on rebuilding the school upon an improved plan, and on a more capacious site. The remodelling of this institution formed one of the latest subjects of his solicitude, and he was in frequent correspondence with his architect (Mr. Sydney Smirke) respecting the detailed arrangements of the interior at the period of his lamented death. The new building has been completed by the present baronet, and is now occupied.

The *Act to Amend the Church Building Acts* has received the Royal assent. It was passed to amend eighteen church-building acts, from the reign of George III. to the present time. Among other things it is declared, that where a permanent provision, satisfactory to the Church-building Commissioners, is secured in lieu of pew-rents, the commissioners, with the consent of the bishop, may direct the pew-rents to cease. It is enacted, that no select vestry shall henceforth be formed under the provisions of the church-building acts; and every select vestry already formed under such provisions is declared to be abolished. The act has clauses in reference to church patronage, to fees, and new regulations for district chapels.

Among the visitors to the Exhibition was an aged

woman of eighty-four, Mary Callinack, who journeyed on foot from Penzance for that purpose. Her small stock of money being exhausted, she bethought herself of applying to the Lord Mayor for a little assistance. She entered the justice-room, where his lordship was sitting, and told him that she left Penzance five weeks before, and had been the whole of this time walking to the metropolis. The Lord Mayor: "What induced you to come to London?" Mrs. Callinack: "I had a little matter to attend to as well as to see the Exhibition. I was there yesterday, and mean to go again to-morrow."—The Lord Mayor: "What do you think of it?"—Mrs. Callinack: "I think it's very good." She then said that all her money was spent but fivepence-halfpenny. After a little further conversation which caused considerable merriment, the Lord Mayor made her a present of a sovereign, telling her to take care of it, there being a good many thieves in London. The poor creature on receiving the gift burst into tears, and said, "Now I shall be able to get back." She was afterwards received by the Lady Mayoress, with whom she remained a long time; and having partaken of tea in the housekeeper's room, left the Mansion-house for one more visit to the Exhibition before returning to her home.

Lord Campbell's new *Act on the Administration of Criminal Law* has come into operation. By this act criminal courts can order indictments, &c., to be amended where the variances are not material to the merits of the case. In indictments for murder and manslaughter the means by which the injury was inflicted need not be specified, and in cases of forgery and getting property by false pretences it will be sufficient to allege that the act was done to defraud, without stating any particular person. A person indicted for felony may be found guilty of a misdemeanour, and in an indictment for a misdemeanour which turns out to be a felony the Court may order another indictment. The sections in the 7th of William IV. and the 1st of Victoria, which allowed a person indicted for felony to be found guilty of an assault, is repealed, in consequence of the great difficulties (as in the remarkable case of the Birds) which have arisen in the construction of the enactment. There is a provision authorising any court, judge, or justice, including Bankruptcy and Insolvency and County Courts, to commit and order a prosecution for perjury. Among the improvements effected by this act is one enabling courts, on conviction for certain misdemeanours, such as conspiracy, indecent assaults, &c., to add hard labour to the sentence for the whole or part of the time. The act extends to all parts of the United Kingdom, with the exception of Scotland.

The new *City Sewers Act* contains the following important provisions respecting *Burial Grounds*: That after any burial ground shall have ceased to be used for the interment of the dead, the commissioners, with the consent of the Bishop of London, may enter into arrangements for the appropriation thereof, or any part thereof, to public improvements, or to enlarge and improve the streets. That the relation of any deceased person, with the consent of the incumbent or other person having the care of any such burial ground, in which the body of such deceased person may have been interred, may cause such body to be removed to any burial ground or cemetery without the City, without any faculty for that purpose. That the commissioners, with the consent of the Bishop of London, may cause any burial ground within the City after it shall have been finally closed, to be planted, paved, or otherwise covered over; and if the surface shall be above the level of the adjoining ground, to cause the same to be lowered, and for that purpose to dig and carry away the soil. Provided always, that the graves and vaults shall be as little disturbed as possible; and the relatives of any deceased person whose body may, within the last twenty years, have been interred or deposited in any grave or vault which may be so disturbed, may cause the remains of such person to be removed and placed in some other burial ground, and the expenses of such (not exceeding 10*l.*) shall be paid by the commissioners; and the remains of such persons as shall have been interred or deposited in the graves or vaults so disturbed which shall not be removed or carried away shall (except such graves or vaults as shall be finally closed up), at the

expense of the commissioners, be removed from such graves or vaults, and be interred in such manner as the Bishop of London, or such person as he shall appoint, shall direct. That if the commissioners shall cause the soil of any burial ground to be planted, paved, or covered over, the relatives of any deceased person who may have been buried therein, or to whose memory any tomb, monument, or inscription may have been erected or placed, may cause such tomb, monument, or inscription to be removed at the expense of the person causing the same to be done.

The subject of *Flogging in the Army* is adverted to in a report made to the secretary at war by Lieut. Col. Jebb, the inspector-general of military prisons, which has just been printed in a parliamentary paper. Col. Jebb states: "If the views of the most experienced officers in Her Majesty's service as to the deterring influence of corporal punishment were correct, a great increase of crime in the army might have been anticipated as the necessary consequence of limiting the power of courts-martial, and materially diminishing a mode of punishment deemed to be the most efficacious for the maintenance of discipline. It is, however, satisfactory to see that the result has not been unfavourable, and though it may partly be attributed to the encouragement given to good conduct, the better class of men who have entered the service, and the partial discharge of some of the worst characters, yet taking all this into account, I think experience has sufficiently shown that imprisonment for military offences has answered the expectations that were formed of it." In 1845, the year previous to the establishment of prisons, the number of convictions by court-martial was 9954, and 652 corporal punishments were inflicted. In 1850, the convictions were 9306, and the corporal punishments 238. The effective force was about the same in each year; in 1845, 125,252, and in 1850, 125,119. Last year there were 495 lashes inflicted by the visitors for serious offences, and the number of prisoners admitted into military prisons was 3565.

The *Receipts at the Great Exhibition*, up to the 19th inst. inclusive, amount to 457,986*l.* 13*s.* 10*d.* The influx of visitors during the month has continued undiminished, frequently exceeding 60,000 in a day. On the 18th, no less than fifteen schools were in the building, amounting together to 1429 children, for whose admission 71*l.* 9*s.* was paid. Agricultural labourers with their families have formed a large portion of the visitors. In one day 3000 persons of this description arrived in town from Devonshire.

The following is a list of *Articles lost by visitors to the Exhibition*, during the months of July and August, and left unclaimed in the possession of the police:—275 shawl brooches and clasps, 319 pocket-handkerchiefs, 69 shawl pins, 16 pocket and memorandum books, 13 pencil cases, 67 bracelets, 43 walking sticks, 48 veils and falls, 1 flask, 1 opera-glass, 168 parasols, 32 umbrellas, 31 reticules and other baskets, 28 bunches of keys, 14 victorines, 49 neck-ties and cuffs, 8 bonnet shades, 18 pairs of spectacles, 4 ladies' season tickets, 1 gentleman's ditto, 38 pairs of gloves, 22 bags of various colours, 7 shirt studs, 2 ladies' pockets—1 containing 6*d.* in copper; 4 snuff boxes, 10 watch keys and seals, 1 cape, 1 overcoat, 3 boy's caps, 3 fans, 10 lockets, various, 1 petticoat, 1 lady's bustle, 2 cigar cases, 1 lady's collar, 2 ditto bands, 1 pair of lancets, 2 rings, 2 pair of goloshes, 1 common metal watch-guard, 1 metallic pencil, 1 camp stool, 14 shawls and mantles, 5 pocket-knives, 4 eye-glasses; cash 15*s.* 10*d.*; a purse with 2*l.* 3*s.* 10*d.*; ditto, 6*s.*; ditto, 4*s.* 6*d.*; ditto, 1*s.* 6*d.*; ditto, 2*s.*; ditto, 1*l.* 2*s.*; ditto, 6*s.* 4*d.*; ditto, 5*s.* 4*d.*; ditto, 6*s.* 3*d.*; ditto, 12*s.*; ditto, 3*d.*; ditto, 3*s.*; ditto, 1*s.*; ditto, 1*s.*; ditto, 5*s.*; ditto, 6*s.* 4*d.*; ditto, 3*s.* 6*d.*; ditto 1*s.*—Of all the stray property found at the Exhibition and handed over to the police for the discovery of ownership, the most remarkable and the most perplexing items come under the head of children; some eighty or ninety boys and girls having lost their parents or friends in the building. Happily the station-house at Prince's-gate provided a mode of escape, and thither all the stray little ones have been regularly sent: one boy was kept there all night, and a bed having been made for him with great-coats, he was next morning forwarded to his relatives at Winchester. Another little

fellow was taken to lodgings in Brompton row, and was claimed there next day by his friends from Epsom. From eighteen to twenty children have been forwarded to various parts of town by the constables going off duty, and no less than sixty have been claimed at the station by their parents.

The printers of the metropolis are making strenuous exertions to establish a literary institution under the title of the *Printers' Athenæum*, and have already received considerable encouragement in its formation, both from compositors, and the trades directly connected with the printing profession, as typefounders, bookbinders, engravers, letterpress and copperplate printers, &c., the members of which are eligible. The object contemplated is to combine the social advantages of a club, with the mental improvement of a literary and scientific institution, and to adapt them for the position and circumstances of the working-classes. All persons engaged in the production of a newspaper, or book, such as editors, authors, reporters, readers, &c., although strictly not belonging to the printing profession, are competent to become members, and persons not so connected will be permitted to join the society upon their being proposed by a member. It is expected that the Athenæum will be opened previous to the commencement of the ensuing year.

A *Great Reform Meeting* was held at Manchester on the 25th. The vast Free Trade Hall was densely crowded long before the proceedings commenced. Mr. G. Wilson was in the chair; and the assembly was addressed by Sir Joshua Walmesley, Mr. Dyer Mr. W. J. Fox, Mr. Williams, Mr. G. Thompson, and other eminent reformers. Several resolutions were unanimously passed: the first, which embodied the principal objects of the meeting was to the following effect: "That the First Minister of the Crown having intimated his intention to introduce a measure of parliamentary reform during the next session, the people should lose no time in giving effective expression to their wishes; this meeting doth therefore declare that any measure which does not re-arrange the electoral districts, extend the franchise to every occupier of a tenement, protect the voter by the ballot, shorten the duration of parliament, and abolish the property qualification required of members, will fail to satisfy the just expectations of the people, will be ineffectual in preventing the corruption, intimidation, and oppression now prevailing at elections, and in securing the full and free representation of the people in the Commons House of Parliament."

The Presidents of the *Queen's Colleges in Ireland* have made their report for the session 1850-1. The results are favourable.—Dr. Shuldham Henry, of Belfast College, reports that the number of matriculated students attending this session is 110, against 107 last year; and of non-matriculated students, 74 this year, against 85 last year: and he explains the difference in favour of the first session of the College by these remarks: "Many young men, who had previously prosecuted their education at the Royal Institution at Belfast and other places, entered the Queen's College for a year to complete it; a number fell back to compete for the scholarships; and, to a considerable extent, the College not having commenced its operations a year after the expected period, there existed an accumulation of students at the time of opening." Considering these things, the Council and Professors feel and express gratification at the number of students who have regularly attended during the past year. Sir Robert Kane, at Cork College, gives very full statistical comparisons to establish his position, that "notwithstanding the exertions made to embarrass the progress of the Queen's Colleges, and to prevent students from availing themselves of the advantages therein afforded for superior education," a still larger number of matriculated students have entered this session than last, and that such a proportion of the matriculated students of last year have remained, that the total number is "almost double" what it was last year. The entire number this year is 156; of whom 118 are matriculated, and 38 non-matriculated. There are 14 under 16 years of age; 82 between 16 and 21; and 25 over 21 years of age. The extreme ages are 14 and 35 years. The ages of non-matriculated students are

generally higher than those of the matriculated, but are not entered, as those students are not subject to the statutes for residence and supervision. In reference to creed, the 118 matriculated students are thus classed:—Church of England, 42; Roman Catholic, 65; Presbyterian, 2; Wesleyan communion, 8; other Protestant communions, 1. In reference to "standing," the majority are Roman Catholics: the Church of England Freshmen are 23, Sophisters, 19; the Roman Catholic Freshmen are 42, Sophisters 23. President Berwick, of Galway College, reports that the matriculated students are 24, non-matriculated 2. He adds the following remark, explaining the comparatively slow progress of this college:—"In the great majority of cases, the young men frequenting the Galway College come from a distance; the town of Galway not as yet possessing such a population as would furnish a large number of students. Taking these circumstances into account, I do not hesitate to say, that the Queen's College, Galway, has fully kept pace with her sister institutions of Belfast and Cork,—institutions which, by the confession of all, have equalled the most sanguine expectations of their warmest supporters. Nor do I entertain a doubt, that, despite the extraordinary and continued opposition which appears to be in a great degree concentrated upon this particular institution, it is destined to outlive the hostility with which it has been assailed, and to confer upon the province those countless and inestimable blessings which follow in the train of knowledge, enlightenment, and civilisation."

PERSONAL NARRATIVE.

The Queen and the Royal Family left Osborne on the 27th of August, for her Majesty's Highland residence, Balmoral, where they arrived on the 29th. Her Majesty passed the previous night in the palace of Holyrood, where she conferred the honour of knighthood on Mr. Johnston, the Lord Provost of Edinburgh.

Her Majesty has intimated her willingness to act as patron of the *Colonial Church and School Society*, an institution formed expressly for sending to the colonies clergymen and other religious teachers steadfastly attached to the doctrines of the Reformation. The archbishops of Canterbury and York have also intimated their adherence to the society.

The Duke of Cambridge has presented the committee of the *Cambridge Military Asylum*, to be erected in memory of his royal highness the late Duke, with an eligible site for the proposed asylum, a building for the reception and maintenance of 40 widows of non-commissioned officers and privates of her Majesty's land forces. The public subscriptions already received are sufficient to induce the committee to commence forthwith the erection of the asylum.

The Duke of Norfolk has *Left the Church of Rome*, and joined the Church of England. The Duke and Duchess, with Lady Adeliza Howard and other members of the family, attended divine service at the collegiate church, Arundel, on Sunday, the 7th, and after the service partook of the sacrament.

Lord Cranworth and Vice-Chancellor Knight Bruce have been appointed Judges of Appeal, the latter with a seat in the House of Lords. Sir W. Page Wood and Mr. James Parker are to become Vice-Chancellors. A vacancy is thus created in the post of Solicitor-General.

Lord Saltoun is to be a Knight of the Thistle in the room of the late Viscount Melville.

Mr. Dominick Daly, formerly Government Secretary and member of Council in Canada, is appointed Lieutenant-Governor of Tobago, in the room of Mr. D. R. Ross, whose death by accident we recently described.

The Reverend Owen Emery Vidal, Perpetual Curate of Holy Trinity, Arlington, Sussex, has been nominated as the first Bishop of Sierra Leone. The Archbishop of Canterbury and her Majesty's Government have signified their consent to Mr. Vidal's consecration, if a moderate endowment can be secured.

Professor Wilson, of Edinburgh, has received from her Majesty a pension of 300*l.* a year, in consideration of his literary merits.

Accounts have been received from the *Expeditions in Search of Sir John Franklin and his Companions*. Captain Parker, of the *Truelove*, whale-ship, which arrived at Hull on the 6th inst., has brought home memoranda communicated by Mr. Kane, the surgeon to the American portion of the expedition. The interesting portions of Mr. Kane's information are the following:—"On the 26th of August, 1850, traces were found to northward of Port Innis, Wellington Channel, confirming those previously found at Cape Riley by Captain Ommaney. These consisted of fragments of clothing, preserved meat tins, and scraps of papers, one of these bearing the name of McDonald, medical officer in the expedition. On the 27th, Captain Penny's party reported graves. These were at once visited by Captain De Haven (of the American expedition), Mr. Penny, and Dr. Kane. They bore respectively the names of W. Braine, R.M., and John Hartnell, of the *Erebus*, and John Torrington, of the *Terror*; the date of the latest death being the 3d of April, 1846. Added to these sad but unmistakable evidences, were the remains of the observatory, carpenters' shop, and armourers' forge. Upon the hill-side and beach were fragments of wood, metal, and clothing, and stacks of empty meat tins. Everything indicated permanency and organisation. There can be no doubt that the cove between Cape Riley and Beechey Island, facing Lancaster Sound, was the first winter station of the missing vessels." The Admiralty have received several other documents relative to these expeditions, particularly a report drawn up by Captain Austen, dated the 12th of August last. The only discovery made has been the above traces of the quarters occupied by the vessels of Franklin's expedition in the winter of 1845-6; but Captain Austen speaks hopefully. He thus reports his determination as to his further search:—"I have now the honour to state, that having maturely considered the directions and extent of the search (without success) that has been made by this expedition, and weighed the opinions of the officers when at their extremes, I have arrived at the conclusion, that the expedition under Sir John Franklin did not prosecute the object of its mission to the southward and westward of Wellington Strait: and having communicated with Captain Penny, and fully considered his official reply to my letter relative to the search of Wellington Strait by the expedition under his charge (unhappily without success), I do not feel authorised to prosecute (even if practicable) a further search in those directions. It is now my intention to proceed with all despatch to attempt the search of Jones's Sound; looking to their Lordships' intention, and to the impression that may now become strengthened with reference thereto. I have at the last moment the satisfaction of stating that we are proceeding under favourable circumstances."

A meeting of the Arctic Officers, Captain Parry, Sir James Ross, and Captain Beechey, has taken place at the Admiralty. The result has been the expression of their unanimous conviction that Sir John Franklin has taken the passage to the north-west out of Wellington Channel, and that he must be sought by taking the same route. But it is the opinion of these authorities—while fully recognising, and even insisting upon, the advantages of immediately dispatching a steamer to carry on the abandoned search in that direction—that no vessel can be started with any hope of reaching an advanced position in Davis Straits, and getting into a safe harbour before the winter.

Obituary of Notable Persons.

REAR-ADMIRAL LORD JOHN HAT, C.B., Superintendent of Devonport Dockyard, died on the 26th of August, in his 58th year.

DR. LORENZO OKEN, the celebrated naturalist, Professor of Natural History at the University of Zurich, died lately, at the age of 73.

DR. H. E. G. PAULUS, Doctor of Theology, Philosophy, and Laws, died at Heidelberg on the 10th inst., in his 90th year. He has been for more than half a century known as one of the most able and active among the theological and philosophical writers of Germany.

THE EARL OF DONOUGHMORE died on the 12th, at Palmerston House, in the county of Dublin, in his 64th year.

MAJOR-GENERAL SIR HENRY WATSON, C.B., died on the 31st ult. He was Colonel of the 15th Regiment of Foot.

LADY MARY KNOX, so well known in Dublin for her evangelical piety, died on the 29th of August, at the age of ninety-four. She was sister to the late Earl of Meath, and the widow of Arthur Knox, Esq., who died in 1798.

SIR WILLIAM PARKER died at his seat, Dunally, in the county of Sligo, on the 1st inst., after a protracted illness, aged 73 years. He for many years filled the office of Deputy-Lieutenant and Justice of the Peace for the county of Sligo, and was formerly Lieutenant-Colonel in her Majesty's 66th Regiment.

THE REV. THOMAS TIERNEY died lately, at the age of 72. He was one of the celebrities of the memorable year 1843, having been included in the monster indictment against O'Connell and his brother repealers.

MR. CHARLES KÖNIG, for nearly fifty years keeper of the mineralogical department of the British Museum, died suddenly on the 29th of August, at the age of 78.

DR. JOHN KIDD, Regius Professor of Medicine at Oxford, died on the 17th, after a few hours illness. He was the author of various important works on science, particularly the Bridge-water Treatise "On the Adaptation of External Nature to the Physical Condition of Man."

MRS. FINDLAY, widow of Mr. Robert Findlay of the Excise, died lately at Greenock. She was Miss Markland, one of "the six Manchline belles," celebrated by Burns.

MR. JAMES RICHARDSON, the enterprising African traveller, died on the 4th of March last, at a small village called Unguruna, six days distant from Kouka, the capital of Bornou.

MR. WILLIAM NICOL, F.R.S.E., died in Edinburgh on the 2nd inst., in his 83rd year. Mr. Nicol's contributions to the "Edinburgh Philosophical Journal" were various and valuable; but his most important contribution to physical science, and with which his name will ever be associated, was his invention of the single image prism of calcareous spar, known to the scientific world as Nicol's prism.

MISS SHIEL, sister to the late Right Hon. Richard Lalor Shiel, died suddenly at Waterford on the 6th inst., after an illness of but two hours. Like that of her distinguished brother, the death of Miss Shiel was quite sudden and unexpected.

MR. T. ANSTET, of Van Diemen's Land, died in March last, at Anstey Barton, his seat in that colony, and where he had settled for some years. He was father to Mr. Chisholm Anstey, M.P. for the borough of Youghal.

COLONIES AND DEPENDENCIES.

THE principal feature of the month's colonial news, in its good and evil aspect, is elsewhere spoken of. What remains for allusion here has a pure unmitigated character of evil, with not an element in it of countervailing good. A large batch of dispatches from Sir Harry Smith relates a series of successes of the British army against the Kafir savages of a kind so peculiar that another such batch would be tantamount to a total defeat. Sir Harry carries triumphantly every manœuvre he projects, and then finds himself simply in the position of having a great many more manœuvres to execute, each as ingenious, as successful, and as profitless as its predecessor. The character of the country precludes the possibility of fully occupying it with troops, and the multitude of our enemies seems as effectually to prevent their defeat in any other way. In such a state of things the ordinary usages of war are no match for those of robbery and murder. The Kafirs have clearly the best of it, and the prospect of any termination to the struggle is more distant than ever. In India the affair of the Nizam of Hyderabad has passed off very quietly, as we ventured to predict. A sum so substantial has been lodged for the present towards the overdue arrears, and such good security has been given for partial liquidation of the rest, that the actual confiscation of the territory is suspended; but what has taken place in so many other similar cases cannot, of course, be avoided in this, and the British government has only to wait its time.

The latest arrival from *India* brings news from Calcutta to the 7th of August. An arrangement has been made with the Nizam, according to which he is to pay to the government 40 lacs of rupees, the remainder in one year, and give security for the regular payment of his contingent. None of his provinces have been occupied. It would seem that there is still a chance of preserving the integrity of his territories, and satisfying for a time, at least, the claims of the British government. Among other means to which the Nizam has been obliged to resort, is that of pledging the Hyderabad jewels, for which it is said negotiations are still pending. The private soldier of her Majesty's 10th regiment who was tried by court-martial for the murder of a Sikh colonel, has been condemned to death, but recommended to the mercy of the commander-in-chief, who, however, was deaf to the appeal, and Rosney has been left for execution. The ex-Dewan Moolraj left Calcutta at the end of last month for Allahabad, under a strong guard, commanded by a European officer; he was very unwell, and in a state of extreme debility.

The accounts from *Hongkong* speak of still nearer impending danger to the reigning dynasty at Peking. It was reported that the insurgents had captured and sacked Kwei-lin, the capital of Kwang-sei, and that they had shown themselves in the Toong-koon district, midway between Hongkong and Canton. A letter has been addressed by the Superintendent of Trade at Hongkong to the chairman of the Canton British Chamber of Commerce, acquainting him, for the information of the mercantile community, that the Chinese Imperial Commissioner had refused the demand on the part of her Majesty's plenipotentiary there to abolish the duties, charges, and restrictions on tea, but that he had consented to transmit her Majesty's plenipotentiary's note on the subject to the Imperial Cabinet at Peking. A letter has also been received from her Majesty's consul at Canton to the Chinese Superintendent of Customs, informing him that in future all interference on the part of the

consulate in the collection of duties will cease, and that British merchants will therefore be allowed, like other foreigners, to arrange their business with his Excellency's officers through a linguist. A similar notification will, no doubt, be made by the consuls at Shanghai and the other ports.

The *West India Mail* brings dates to the end of last, and the beginning of this month. On the 17th of August, a dreadful hurricane was felt in the West Indies, from St. Thomas along the whole line of islands to the northward of St. Lucia. The hurricane was felt severely at St. Kitts. All the small craft were destroyed. At Antigua several mills were upset, and others injured, but no lives were lost, and the shipping almost escaped. At Montserrat, Dominica, and Martinique, several vessels were wrecked, or run ashore.

The crops in most of the Windward Islands may be said to be finished, and in all have been better than those of last year. The weather on the whole has been favourable, for the hurricane has not done much damage to the crops. Barbadoes and Trinidad escaped it altogether.

In Trinidad the weather had been rainy, so much so as to have retarded vegetation in certain localities, but generally the young canes were promising. The greater part of the Trinidad coolies were in the city of Port of Spain, claiming either their passage back to the East Indies, or a further bounty of 50 dollars, on condition of fulfilling five years of additional agricultural servitude in the colony. The crop was over throughout the island, and the amount of produce shipped to date was—sugar, 27,439 hhds., 3,393 tierces, 7,538 barrels, and 10,342 puncheons; cocoa, 4,342,392 lbs.; coffee, 61,861 lbs. The market was well supplied with all sorts of American provisions.

In Barbadoes the influenza had prevailed to such an extent, that the House of Assembly had been unable to meet.

In Jamaica, the cholera was disappearing. In Savannah-le-Mar, where there had been nearly 400 deaths from cholera, there were still a few isolated cases. Several cases of cholera had broken out at Newcastle among the troops. Whether any of them had proved fatal was not known.

In *British Guiana*, the Court of Policy had held several sittings, and the government plan relative to the constitution had been brought forward. Several bills of much importance to the colony had been passed. The plan for a change of institutions in the colony, as brought forward in the Court of Policy, was generally read with satisfaction. The French steamer of war, *Le Tartare*, had arrived in the Demerara river, bringing a part of the crew of the shipwrecked bark *Choice*, 130 days from Seringatam, bound to Demerara, which vessel had been abandoned by the crew in two boats, one of which was picked up by the French steamer, having parted company with the other one during the night. It is supposed that the longboat, containing the captain and others of the crew, must have perished, as the boat saved had been at sea 12 days.—The weather in Demerara had been showery, and the influenza was very prevalent; the business of many estates being thrown back in consequence, labourers and employers being alike affected. Business had been very dull.

A *Frightful Eruption* of the long dormant volcano of the Pelée Mountain, in Martinique, took place during the night of August 5th. Like the great and memorable eruption of the St. Vincent Soufriere in 1812, the phenomenon at Martinique is described as having been accompanied with "a noise similar to the approach of thunder, still nearer and nearer, with a vibration that affected the feelings and hearing." It appears, however, that, beyond a layer of grey sand, gritty particles of calcined earth, and favilla, found in the morning upon the streets, houses, and shipping, as having been thrown forth by the volcano in the night, the people of St. Pierre were, up to the date of the accounts, uninformed of the effects of the phenomenon.

The accounts from *British America* state that the general election in the province of Nova Scotia for members of parliament has resulted in a majority for the existing government. The Provincial Secretary, the Attorney-General, and Financial Secretary, leading members of the cabinet, have been re-elected. The first gentleman was returned for Cumberland county without opposition. Several counties have partially or totally changed sides in politics since the last election. The construction of the railway from Halifax to Portland, and through New Brunswick to Quebec, may be considered as secured. That question has been one of the prominent points in the election—the liberals being in favour of, and the conservatives opposed to it. The removal of the paraphernalia of the Canadian government from Toronto to Quebec has been commenced.

The intelligence from the *Cape of Good Hope* come down to the 1st of August. It continues to be very unsatisfactory. For the last six months Sir Harry Smith has been waiting for reinforcements sufficient to enable him to execute a great concerted movement on the mountain fastnesses of the Kafirs in the Amatola mountains, and thus it was assumed to put a brilliant and victorious end to the war. Between the 26th and 30th of June Sir Harry Smith and General Somerset carried out this operation by concerted movements with great success, so far as the immediate result was concerned. The execution of the manoeuvre was as follows: On the 24th of June, the three great divisions of the army converged towards the southern side of the Kafir fastnesses. In order to intercept any retreat of the enemy in a northern direction, Captain Tylden's detachment was brought down from Whittlesea, where they had been employed in protecting the northern frontier against the Tambookies. By the 30th, the three divisions succeeded in clambering through the Amatolas, at the expense of six killed and fifteen wounded; but, when they had got to the plain, they found the coast clear—the enemy was flown. It turned out that, the moment Captain Tylden had descended from Whittlesea on the

Amatolas, the Tambookies descended from Whittlesea; whereupon Captain Tylden retreated, and so did the Kafirs. Even the anticipated booty was not forthcoming. Only 2,200 head of cattle and 50 horses were found by our troops in the whole mountain district; for the enemy had sent off the remainder of their herds some time previously to a place of security. On the other hand, the Kafirs and their Hottentot allies, dislodged from the Amatolas, spread themselves in bands of marauders over the colony, and did an amount of mischief, compared with which all that had previously been suffered is trivial. A large tract of country in the interior of the colony has been devastated, the houses burnt, and the inhabitants expelled or slain; and, in revenge for the 2,200 head of cattle captured by Sir Harry Smith in the Amatolas, no less than 20,000 Merino sheep, 3,000 head of cattle, and 300 horses have been swept away by the barbarian invader. In another part of our Cape possessions, the Orange River Sovereignty, the British resident, Major Warden, has sustained a defeat in an attempt at armed mediation between the differences of two native chiefs. Major Warden espoused the cause of Maroko, chief of the Barolongs, against Moltizani, chief of the Lighoya Basutos; and being joined by a Griqua force under Adam Kok, marched at the head of 200 European troops and levies, and 900 Barolongs and Griquas, against Moltizani. The latter is supposed to have been supported by Moshesh, the paramount chief of the Basutos; and the consequence was, that Major Warden was totally overwhelmed by thousands, and fought his way back to the Wesleyan station of Plattenberg with great difficulty. His Europeans alone saved him. He was assembling a fresh force to renew his operations; and a war in the interior with Moshesh and the whole of his great tribe was likely to be added to our present war with the Gaika Kafirs on the coast.

Intelligence from *Auckland in New Zealand* has been received to the 20th of April. A disturbance, which at first appeared alarming, had taken place among the Maoris, in consequence of one of the Maori police having struck one of the Ngaliipoa tribe, in an attempt to rescue a prisoner of that tribe from custody, a large body of the natives came in their canoes to demand vengeance. They were completely armed, and well-furnished with ammunition. They danced their war-dance on the beach. The governor, Sir George Grey, had returned a few days before from the southern settlements. Orders were issued to the troops, and to Captain Oliver, of her Majesty's ship *Fly*, to hold themselves in readiness for immediate action. Sir George Grey, attended by the principal military and civil officers of the government, proceeded to Mechanics' Bay, where his Excellency, summoning the tribes, demanded of them the reason of their unlawful assembling under arms. They replied their quarrel was not with the Europeans, but that a native policeman had grossly insulted a native chief, and that the offender must be delivered to his particular tribe, to be dealt with according to the laws of his nation. To this demand, of course, only one reply could be made. The governor peremptorily commanded them to launch their canoes, and leave the bay within two hours; at the expiration of which time, if any remained, the artillery and guns of the *Fly* should open fire upon them without further delay. The Maoris knew the fatality of resistance, and obeyed the order without further disturbance.

Advices have been received from *Sidney* to the 2nd of June. The almost exclusive topic is the *Discovery of Gold* in the Bathurst district. It was found, it is said, that the country, from the Mountain Range to an indefinite extent in the interior, is one immense gold-field. The Sydney papers contain many letters on the subject. An extensive landowner in the Bathurst district writes:—"We are all in the greatest excitement here, some from joy, some from despair, anticipating famine, disease, and death. I am glad to hear the military are coming up; we shall sadly want them. Went to the diggings, and in three hours got one ounce of gold in one bright lump. Carriage is so high I am afraid we shall not be able to get up supplies." Another letter

received by a Sydney merchant, states that rock salt has been discovered in the search for gold. A regular company is at work under the auspices of a member of council, whose daily operations average in their results a full ounce per man. The "Maitland Mercury" states that gold has been discovered in the tract of country situate between Summerhill on the south, and Dubbo on the north, and known as the Wellington district. The more authentic accounts warrant us in believing that one large piece of nine ounces, and two or three small pieces of several ounces' weight, and some pounds of grain and dust, have already been found by the parties engaged in digging there. Three apprentices who ran away from Bathurst, returned in a few days with seventeen ounces of gold, which sold for 51*l*. Considerable quantities of gold and gold-dust were waiting at Bathurst when the "Thomas Arbuthnot" left Sydney, until an escort should convey it to the latter place. The above-mentioned ship has a piece of gold on board weighing 4½ lbs.; it is from Bathurst, and is intended to be placed in the Great Exhibition. The different accounts furnish evidence of the disturbance to all ordinary courses of employment which the gold discoveries had made through New South Wales. The labouring classes were leaving Sydney, and in consequence mechanics were getting from 10*s*. to 15*s*. a day, an advance of fifty per cent. on their usual earnings. But it was not alone the labourers who were vanishing from Sydney; "all classes" were joining in the movement, —shopkeepers, "the polite professions," and the very government officials themselves. With the view of checking official desertion, the governor advertised in the "Gazette" of 27th May, that any person, of whatever grade, employed in the public service, who shall resign his post during the existing emergency, will be noted as ineligible to serve again, and will certainly not be reappointed. But, notwithstanding this notification, the desertions continued, thinning every department, and leaving the police force far too weak for its duties. The greatest apprehension was felt by the flockmasters; for if the shepherds left their flocks, a short time would be sufficient to destroy half the sheep in the colony. A flockmaster, writing his apprehensions to a local journal, finds, however, some ground for hope that the shepherds may be less affected than many other classes:—"The work is so heavy, and so little suited to the taste of men who have been crawling about after sheep for years, that I think those who know what they would have to do, as is the case with such as are near the spot, will not go away. In the distant districts, the rumours that are spread will, it is to be feared, induce many to leave their employers. Up to this time, I have not lost a shepherd, although the diggings are within three miles of our station." The accounts variously estimate the numbers at the diggings as already ten or twelve thousand; one statement says sixteen or seventeen thousand; and the lowest estimate says seven thousand. Yet the news had not arrived at the neighbouring colonies, with which communication is more irregular and more tedious than even with ourselves in England.

PROGRESS OF EMIGRATION AND COLONISATION.

A public meeting of emigrants about to proceed to Australia by the *Athenian*, a vessel of 670 tons, chartered by the *Family Colonisation Loan Society*, was held on board the vessel on the 22nd. She lay in the East India Docks, and was about to start on her voyage to Adelaide and Port Philip. The Earl of Shaftesbury presided, and the assemblage was very large. The meeting was addressed by the noble chairman, Mr. Foster, late member of council for Port Philip, Mr. Sidney, and Mr. Lowe, late member of council for Sidney. Mr. Lowe, in giving some good practical advice to the emigrants, adverted particularly to the present crisis in the colony, "when they arrived, (he said) they would hear a great deal about the gold discoveries;—he would say, "Let other people go gold-hunting; you will derive the benefit of the discovery in the advanced rate of wages in the market, from which so much labour will be withdrawn." The gold-field was a lottery, in which a vast number would draw blanks, and in a country where there was a number of persons who had been transported for their crimes, and whose sentences had expired, but who had

not all become reformed men, there would be congregated in the gold-field a desperate and reckless set, whom every prudent man would wish to avoid. Probably, before the requisite force could be applied by the Government, there would be scenes that would rival those in California. The superior class of emigrants sent out by Mrs. Chisholm, would command high wages and situations of trust. The great demand was for people who could be trusted when the employer's back was turned, and the economy and self-denial which must have been exercised by the emigrants present, in order to take advantage of this society's offer, would be some guarantee for their good conduct. It was to be regretted that the funds at Mrs. Chisholm's command were not equal to the demand and the numbers requiring aid, but, by working a little longer, they might raise the whole capital themselves, and have the matter in their own hands. A vote of thanks to the Earl of Shaftesbury and Mrs. Chisholm having been paid by acclamation, the Earl of Shaftesbury expressed his admiration of the intelligent zeal and indefatigable exertions of Mrs. Chisholm. The audience (he said) had probably heard something of "Bloomerism," which meant that ladies were to walk about in man's attire. Mrs. Chisholm had attained the highest order of Bloomerism; she had the heart of a woman, and the understanding of a man. He wished her "God speed," and prayed that she might be made more and more instrumental in carrying out great and beneficent and holy purposes. The assembly then dispersed about the ship, and inspected the arrangements of the vessel, which appeared to indicate much care and judgment, and to have been dictated by experience. Mrs. Chisholm, for whom the emigrants seemed to have the most affectionate regard and respect, was unwearied in her courteous attention to the demands made upon her by visitors for explanation and description.

The latest intelligence from British Guiana states that the planters had received a welcome reinforcement to the labour force of the colony in the arrival of the vessel *William Gibson* from Calcutta with 224 coolies on board. An interesting letter was read in the Court of Policy, from Mr. White, the joint immigration agent for British Guiana and Trinidad at Calcutta, addressed to the governor. Mr. White reports, among other things, that the coolies who had gone back to India from this colony in the *Lucknow*, and who had carried with them from 2000*l*. to 3000*l*. sterling, had expressed themselves highly satisfied, and it was expected that many of them would return to the colony. In the course of the discussion in the court on the reading of Mr. White's letter, the governor remarked that, large as had been the amount of money taken back to India by the people who went in the *Lucknow*, the amount of property which the emigrants who had sailed for India in the *Zenobia* took with them was much larger; the sum of 20,000 dollars having been delivered into the custody of the captain, while at least half as much more, as his Excellency believed, remained in the possession of the people themselves. These are gratifying facts, and show that, whatever may have been the advantage to the colony of coolie immigration, it has been at all events productive of great pecuniary advantage to the coolies themselves.

The following is a statement of the immigration into the port of New York for the last eight months, as compared with similar returns during the same period last year. It will be seen that the average since the month of April has been over 1000 per day:

	1850.	1851.
January	13,154	14,709
February	8,206	8,170
March	5,569	10,055
April	14,027	27,779
May	42,846	33,858
June	11,762	34,402
July	34,446	27,612
August	18,092	30,251
	143,702	192,836
Increase this year		49,134

During the week of September there have been thirty-four emigrant arrivals at this port, from the following places in Europe:—Antwerp, 91; Bremen, 725; Bristol,

23; Cardiff, 23; Cork, 347; Dublin, 210; Galway, 153; Genoa, 23; Glasgow, 182; Gottenburg, 221; Hamburg, 337; Havre, 862; Liverpool, 3147; London, 894. Total 7238.

The Irish journals give almost daily accounts of the departure of *Emigrants*. The following is from the "Waterford Mail":—"A ship has sailed from Waterford to New York, with 202 passengers on board; and the steamer *Mars* has taken away from the same port about 300 emigrants, who proceed to America *via* Liverpool." The "Tipperary Vindicator" says:—"The tide of emigration flows on with unabated vigour from several districts of Upper and Lower Ormond. The crops are fitting away both by night and day, and with the assets thereof the peasantry are going off to America. We learn that several families have left Nenagh and its vicinage within the last few weeks; and, from what we know, the same may be safely said of other towns in the county. Thousands, many of them with even large capital, are just now hastily leaving the endearing scenes of their childhood, despairing of being any longer able to bear up against those ruinous fiscal burthens which, thanks to the genius of British misrule, are weighing down the energies of all classes, high and low, in Ireland."

By an act of parliament passed on the 7th ult., additional powers are conferred on the *Canterbury Association*, for the disposal of lands in New Zealand.

The association has the power to enforce their bye-laws in the settlement before justices, who are authorised to impose penalties for any breach of the same. Power is now given to reserve and appropriate land for public purposes, and the association can grant licenses for the felling and removal of timber.

A meeting of intending colonists and others took place on the 24th, at the offices of the association. It was stated that the Council of the Colony of New Zealand held their last sitting at Wellington, which had given much satisfaction to the colonists, as it afforded an unquestionable indication of the intention of the local executive to transfer the seat of government permanently from Auckland. The superior claims of Wellington had been generally admitted, except when local interests prevailed. The Provincial Council Bill, the main objects of which were that the provincial councils should be established in both provinces, and that they should be composed of one-third nominees and two-thirds representatives, and the possession of freeholds of a certain value, or the occupation of dwellings of a certain rent should be the franchise qualification, was read a second time on the 18th of June. The debate was protracted, and division existed on the part of government. "The 'Duke of Brontë' ship, which left Portsmouth on the 2nd of February, for Canterbury, was spoken in 40 deg. south long., 17 deg. 40 min. lat., on the 14th of April.

NARRATIVE OF FOREIGN EVENTS.

THE distrust we last month expressed of the reported insurrection in Cuba, our belief that it was a mere invention of amateur American pirates and sympathisers, and our anticipation that it might be found more difficult than formerly to save the promoters of any such new piratical attempt from the responsibilities of an enterprise so atrocious in itself and so unheard of in the usages of nations understood to be at peace with each other, were receiving fatal confirmation while we wrote. Exactly a month ago General Lopez suffered the fate of a pirate by death from the garrotte; some fifty of his followers, chiefly Americans, but comprising also some rebel Spaniards and two or three Hungarian officers worthy of a better fate, having previously been shot like dogs. Of all this there is nothing to be said but that the savage doom was justly incurred. Whether the Spaniards might not more wisely have tempered it with somewhat more of mercy, is a question which the future will have to decide. It is quite evident, from other causes than its mere proximity to the American continent, that the island of Cuba is very far from the safest possession of the crown of Spain. Its government is a disgrace to civilisation; and supposing the real power of America once brought against it, what civilised state would think of interfering in behalf of the only unredeemed slave empire on the earth? Even from the southern states of the American Union, though disgraced by domestic slavery, the infamous slave traffic is banished; and could France or England, by whom so many sacrifices have been made in this great cause, consent to make such sacrifices, yet more frightful, as would be involved in a war with America, for support of a government not only most degraded and feeble, but using those very means to prolong its wretched existence which they have repeatedly denounced as the most iniquitous known to governments or men.

The constitution of the 4th March is at length abolished in Austria, and the system which prevails throughout that empire is once more an avowed despotism. In effect it has never been anything else; and the only circumstance to excite remark in the late circular of Prince Schwartzemberg, is, that the men who have all along professed a perfect belief in the practical feasibility as well as abstract justice of this constitution, are the very men by whom it is now abolished, and who thus do not scruple to avow themselves parties to a shameful deceit deliberately and for ulterior purposes practised on the German people. A heavy day of reckoning for all this will one day most assuredly come; and if there were any truth in the rumours which have been floating about Paris, disturbing the men of the Bourse, and very sensibly influencing the funds, it might be possible that such a day of reckoning is even now not very far distant. But there is not much probability of any French *coup d'état* at present. The President's policy is not to fight himself, but to let others fight for him; and this the Orleanist Princes have been doing most effectually, by displaying all the chicanery and tracasserie of their dead father, with not a particle of his talents or sagacity.

The *Political Trials* at Lyons terminated on the 4th inst. The whole of the counsel for the prisoners had previously thrown up their cases, because, (as stated in a letter to the President of the court-martial) "they were convinced that the dignity and liberty of defence no longer existed." It appears that the evidence of Police-agents was admitted with a latitude that surprises the English reader, and yet the attempt to impeach the credit of these agents of government was perceptibly repressed. The defence of this course was, that a cross-examination in reference to the character of the police-agents would be concerning matters "not relative to the case," and that "the police always refuses to give up the names of its agents." When Gent, whose personal

character had been mercilessly defamed, attempted to protest, "the President, rising hastily, declared the court adjourned." It was upon this that the counsel, with the consent of their clients, determined to withdraw. When the court, in compliance with the law, nominated counsel for the prisoners in lieu of those who had retired from the defence, the prisoners, with one exception, refused the services of the new counsel. The court, therefore, proceeded without counsel; and, after several hours private deliberation, delivered judgment. Thirty-six of the prisoners, including a number "in flight," were found guilty of having taken part in a plot at Lyons "for the purpose of destroying or changing the government of the republic," and "for the purpose of exciting

civil war by arming the citizens against each other." The sentences were—transportation for Alphonse Gent and six others; periods of detention falling from fifteen years to five years, against Montegut, H. Delescluze, Borel, and seventeen others; imprisonment for shorter periods, with fines, for the rest. Pasta and eleven others were acquitted. As the sentences were delivered, a shout of "Vive la République!" was raised in the prison. In the vicinity of the court large crowds were assembled; but the great military demonstrations were sufficient to secure tranquillity, even if any breach of it had been contemplated.

Many arrests have taken place on suspicion of plots against the government. On the 3rd inst. fifty persons were arrested in the quarters St. Honoré, St. Martin, and St. Marceau. Among the persons seized, was M. Dalican, the conductor of the "Voix du Proscrit," at the office of the paper, in the Rue Montmartre. The arrests, it is said, amounted in all to several hundreds; but the greater number were afterwards liberated, including the conductor of the "Proscrit."

On the 9th, a great sensation was excited by the appearance in the "Moniteur," of an ordinance of the Prefect of police; whereby, "considering that a certain number of foreigners, abusing the hospitality vouchsafed to them in France, engage in culpable manoeuvres against the internal and external safety of the state, &c.," it is ordered, "That every foreigner arriving within the department of the Seine for the purpose of residing there, or exercising any profession or calling, shall be bound to present himself, within three days after his arrival, at the Prefecture of police, to obtain permission to remain;" and that "foreigners at present residing in Paris shall appear" within a delay of a week at the Prefecture of the police, there to regularise their position: but foreigners "travelling for their pleasure or business without any intention to reside" shall not be subject to these regulations, "if provided with a passport from their government, regularly visé." In consequence of this edict, a great number of foreigners, who had resided in Paris for the last two or three years, have left precipitately. The government has transmitted very precise orders to the different authorities in the departments for those fugitives to be placed under a special surveillance. It is stated that the order of the Prefect of police will be extended in its operation throughout all the departments of France.

The Councils-General have now all declared themselves on the question of Revision. Forty-eight have simply expressed a wish that the Constitution be revised, conformably to Article 111—which requires the impossibility of a majority of four-fifths of the Assembly in favour of the revision. Seventeen wished for the pure and simple revision. Six have demanded the revision as promptly as possible. Three have refused to express any opinion. Six demanded the abolition of Article 45—making the existing President ineligible. One demanded that the Constitution be revised so as to strengthen republican institutions; and one demanded the same thing, that France might return to traditional and hereditary monarchy. In a number of instances the decision was that of a bare majority over a large minority; and in many instances the mass of the council "abstained from the question," as beyond the legal competency of their body; but several of those which at first abstained from expressing an opinion, have since passed resolutions in favour of revision.

The ceremony of *Laying the Foundation Stone* of the central market-places of Paris took place on the 15th. An enormous crowd thronged all the streets in the neighbourhood of St. Eustache; and all windows, balconies, and roofs looking on the site of the projected buildings swarmed with spectators. The instant the helmets of the escort of carabineers were descried a murmur arose, which soon swelled into cries of various political import, some giving uproarious vivats for the President, and others equally vigorous shouts in favour of the republic. On the whole, however, Louis Napoleon had reason to be satisfied with his reception. The President and his staff having arrived in front of the church, a procession of the clergy issued from the door to perform the religious part of the ceremony. The

curate of St. Eustache having delivered an appropriate discourse, the Prefect of the Seine made a speech, to which the President replied at some length, saying in conclusion:—"In laying this first stone of an edifice of which the destination is so eminently popular, I deliver myself with confidence to the hope that, with the support of good citizens, and with the protection of Heaven, it will be given to us to lay upon the soil of France some foundations whereupon will be erected a social edifice sufficiently solid to offer a shelter against the violence and mobility of human passions." After the ceremony was finished, the President returned along the quay of the Tuileries in an open caleche, escorted by a strong detachment of cuirassiers. As he passed before the gate of the Carronsal he was assailed with stunning cries of "Vive la République!" from a large crowd, who had assembled there apparently for that purpose. Two of these republicans were arrested on the spot, and conducted to the prefecture of police. A body of the "Dames de la Halle," or market-women, attended to present bouquets to the President, and begged to be permitted to pay their respects to him at the Elysée. The request was granted, and next morning was fixed for the interview, which took place accordingly, and the scene was highly characteristic. A deputation of not less than 300—the flower of the female merchants in fruit and vegetables of the faubourgs—dressed in their utmost finery, claimed the performance of the promise. They were received by the orderly officers in attendance, and conducted through the saloons of the palace, and into the gardens, where they enjoyed themselves for some time. Refreshments were then laid out in the dining-room, and they were invited to partake of the President's hospitality. The champagne was passing round pretty freely when the President entered. They received him with acclamations of "Vive Napoléon!" The President, after the usual salutations, took a glass of wine and proposed the toast, "A la santé de dames de la Halle de Paris!" which was responded to in a becoming manner; and "La santé Napoléon!" was in turn proposed by an elderly matron, and loudly cheered. The ladies were particularly pleased at finding the bouquets presented yesterday arranged in the dining-room. Louis Napoleon chatted for some time with his visitors, and expressed in warm terms, the pleasure he felt at seeing them under his roof. The ladies requested that one of their companions—the most distinguished for personal attractions, as for youth—should be allowed to embrace him in the name of the others. Such a request no man could hesitate to grant, and the fair one who was deputed to bestow the general salute advanced, blushing and trembling, to perform the duty. Louis Napoleon went through the pleasing ceremony with much credit to himself, and apparently to the great satisfaction of those present. In a short time the visitors asked permission to retire, after again thanking the President for the honour he did them. Before separating they united in one last and loud acclamation of "Vive Napoléon!" Among the bouquets was one of remarkable beauty of arrangement. It was of violets, and had over the top the letters "L. N.," formed of white flowers. The entire flower-market had been searched for violets, and the selection of that flower was not without its meaning; the violet, as is known, having been the rallying sign of the partisans of the Emperor Napoleon previous and subsequent to his escape from Elba.

The freedom of the press continues to be repressed by severe measures. M. François Victor Hugo, a younger son of M. Victor Hugo, and M. Paul Meurice, have been convicted, by a Paris jury, of publishing an article calculated to make the Government odious. Paris juries, unlike those of the rural departments, are virtually selected by the Government officials. M. Hugo has been sentenced to nine months imprisonment and a fine of 2200 francs; M. Meurice to imprisonment for nine months and a fine of 3000 francs. The Paris journal, the *Avènement du Peuple* of the 20th inst. was seized at the post-office and at the office of that journal, and a prosecution is commenced against the responsible editor, for publishing a letter from M. V. Hugo, and an article signed by Auguste Vacquerie, the editor in question. The *Avènement* is prosecuted under the charge of making an attack on the respect due to the law, an

apology for acts designated crimes or misdemeanours by the penal code, and provocation to civil war. The *Presse* has been also seized for publishing the letter above alluded to, and for adding an article signed E. de Girardin. The latter paper is prosecuted under the charge of making an attack on the respect due to the law, and an apology for acts designated crimes or misdemeanours by the penal code.

In the provinces the government appears to entertain the utmost jealousy and suspicion of republican opinions. Spies and informers are in constant employment; and charges of conspiracy are built upon the slightest grounds. Of this some amusing instances are mentioned. Some coal merchants were lately drinking together in a wine shop, and over their wine they sang a well-known song, the burden of which is, "Aux armes! Courons aux frontières." The parish priest passing by, thought he heard the words "Aux armes! Courons aux frontières," and denounced them as conspirators against functionaries. They were actually tried upon the common accusation of "exciting hatred in citizens towards each other;" but a conviction, it would seem, is not so easily obtained in the country as in Paris, and they were acquitted.

Absolutism has been restored in *The Austrian Dominions*. The "Vienna Gazette" of the 26th August contained a series of decrees by the Emperor, abolishing the national or Parliamentary responsibility of his cabinet, declaring their responsibility to be solely personal towards himself; and thus sweeping away the last fragment of the Constitution, and establishing absolute rule all over the Austrian territories.

The *Prussian Government* continues its measures to extinguish the independence of the press. The "Cologne Gazette," a paper of great ability, a supporter of constitutional order, has, in consequence of the threats of the government, determined, for the present, to abstain altogether from political writing.

The Emperor of Austria and the King of Prussia met at Salzburg, on the 30th of August, and proceeded to Ischl to hold political conference. The meeting between the King of Prussia and his nephew, the young Emperor, was cordial, and without ceremony. Twice they conferred tête-à-tête. Prince Schwarzenberg and M. Von Manteuffel had repeated interviews; occasionally inviting M. Von Meyendorf and General Von Roehow to their council. The Emperor invited several Prussian officers and other distinguished individuals to Verona to witness the grand reviews.

The principal intelligence from Italy relates to a dreadful *Earthquake*, which has dealt destruction over the peninsula from Point Campanella below the Bay of Naples, along the whole range of the Apennines, through the upper portion of the Basilicata and the whole length of the Terra di Bari on the Adriatic coast. The date of this visitation was 14th August. At Sorrento, on the western extremity of the line of disaster, several houses were thrown down; at the eastern extremity, the town of Bari was almost destroyed. All the houses were either reduced to ruins or swallowed up; with the loss of hundreds of lives. In the upper Basilicata, which is in the centre of the perturbed district, the catastrophe has been immense and terrible. A letter from Naples, dated the 24th August, says:—"I have received several details relative to the dreadful disaster which occurred on the 14th inst. in the province of Basilicata, in this kingdom, and about one hundred miles from the capital. A list of more than fifty villages is given in which greater or less damage was done; in more than one place the principal buildings having been destroyed, and in all several lives having been lost amidst the ruins of fallen houses. The greatest sufferer, however, was the town of Melfi, a place containing 10,000 inhabitants: three-quarters of the city are in a mass of ruins; the Archbishop's palace, the college, the municipality, the barracks, and the police-station, having been all levelled to the ground. The known deaths amount already to 700, besides 200 wounded, among whom the principal families count victims. I have not time this morning to give all the minute details, but it is sufficient to say that a rich and populous district has

been completely destroyed, and the loss of life has been immense. It does not appear that the ground opened, but all the injury was done by the houses falling from the repeated shocks of the earthquake, the rapidity of which was such that the persons in the houses and passing in the streets had not time to escape. The King on receiving this dreadful news immediately ordered a sum of 4000 ducats to be sent from his private purse; to which the Queen added 2000, in addition to the sum of 5000 ducats contributed by the Treasury. Temporary hospitals have been erected, and detachments of sappers and miners have been sent to the different places to assist in clearing away the ruins and disinterring the unfortunate victims. Private subscriptions have been opened in the towns near to the place where the catastrophe has occurred; and, no doubt, the active charity of the city of Naples will not be deficient." A medical officer, despatched by the Neapolitan government to the scene of the earthquake gives the following account:—"The village of Baviile has actually disappeared. I found all about this district large fissures, partly filled up with houses. A man who escaped told me it appeared to him that for a minute he was being tossed about in the air; the earth appeared, as it were, endowed with a breathing power, and then came a different movement—a shaking to and fro. Here some military had arrived to excavate. There was a strong stench of decomposing bodies. This place was really deserted by the inhabitants, at least I saw very few. How shall I give you an idea of what was once the town of Melfi? The cathedral is down, as are the college, the churches, the military depot, and 163 houses—98 are in a falling state, and 180 pronounced as dangerous. The military have arrived, and are working away. Our medical staff is by no means strong enough. More than a thousand bodies have already been dug up; I need not add, all dead. The wounded are over 600, and present every variety of flesh-wounds and fracture. Sixty-five boys of the college of Melfi are supposed to have perished. The calamity took place when most of the population were sleeping, as is the custom in Italy, after dinner." At the police-office in Naples, on the 27th August, they replied to inquiries—"Up to this day the returns of dead bodies dug out of the ruins from all towns and villages is 857; but the excavations have only commenced.

The *Madrid* journals contain an account of the christening of the infant child of the Duke and Duchess de Montpensier in the palace at Seville. The ceremony took place with great pomp, and the Cardinal Archbishop of Seville officiated. The Duke d'Aumale was godfather, and not fewer than twenty-six names were given to the princess—amongst them were those of Marie Amelie. The Duke de Montpensier, as delegate of the queen, subsequently invested the royal child with the ribbon of the order of Maria Louisa.

The government of Louis Napoleon has urged on Queen Isabella the expediency of restoring Narvaez to the head of the Spanish cabinet. Christina, however, resists this change.

The American mail has brought accounts from *New York* to the 10th inst.. There was intelligence at New York from California reaching to August 1. The accounts from the southern mines are satisfactory, especially in regard to the quartz veins. The burnt district in San Francisco has again been covered with houses, during the four weeks that have elapsed since the fire. Few traces of the conflagration remain in the lower part of the city, and the light wooden buildings that are destroyed are being replaced by substantial erections of brick.

In Oregon, several skirmishes have taken place between the United States' troops and the Indians, in which the latter were defeated with considerable loss. It was supposed that the Indians were not inclined to further hostilities at present, and the American camp was accordingly broken up.

A terrible storm has visited the southern part of the United States, particularly along the Gulf of Florence, and has been very disastrous to the cotton, sugar, and tobacco crops. The cotton crop in Alabama had suffered

before the storm from drought, and only half or two-thirds of a crop was anticipated. The storm then set in, and raged for twelve hours, destroying the crops in many districts almost entirely. Several parts of Georgia, Alabama, South Carolina, and Florida have suffered severely. The effects of the gale in Florida were especially disastrous. A large amount of property was destroyed, including nearly the whole of the tobacco crop, and a number of barns, cotton-sheds, and other buildings. The corn and cotton crops also sustained essential damage.

In New Orleans the Cuban expedition projects are now entirely abandoned, and there are a great many liberators in that city without the means of returning to their homes. They demanded money of the Cuban committee, when some disturbance arose and arrests were made, but nothing serious has occurred thus far. The police are out in force in case of any outbreak.

The American papers contain a report of an interview of the United States Commissioners with the chiefs of the Sioux Indians, the object of which was to conclude a treaty for the purchase of their lands. The Indians struggled hard to obtain the payment of an outstanding balance of 30,000 dols. before the ratification of the treaty; but eventually they were contented with an engagement on the part of the United States Commissioners, that the matter should be immediately attended to. The treaty provides that—"There be perpetual peace between these Indians and the United States; that they cede all their lands, but have a reservation for a home; that the United States pay them the sum of 1,410,000 dols.; that the chiefs receive 220,000 dols. on the ratification of this treaty; that they receive 30,000 dols. for the establishment of school-houses and other buildings; that the remaining sums remain in trust with the United States at five per cent. interest, for forty-two years, and that the principal then revert to the United States. That they receive the following annuities:—12,000 dols. agricultural fund; 8,000 dols. educational fund; 10,000 dols. in goods and provisions; 30,000 dols. in cash. The money left to be expended by the provisions of a former treaty, at the discretion of the President, is by this made payable in cash.

The expected *Invasion of Cuba* by the band of adventurers, under General Lopez, has taken place, and terminated in his destruction and that of his followers. The expedition which left new Orleans, 450 strong, effected a landing at Cubanos, about forty miles from Havannah; but four boats, containing 50 of the invaders, were captured by the Spaniards on the morning of the 16th of August, taken to Havannah, and shot the same day. The following is the Spanish official account of this military execution:—"The troops formed a square. They had on their war uniform—the 'blusa' and straw hat. On the arrival of the troops (the cavalry and the civil guard) the multitude on foot and on horseback, placed on the heights, on the plain, on the sea, and a great distance upon the edifices of Jesus del Monte and el Cerro, incessantly cheered the Queen and Spain—eternal idols of that army and of this people so much calumniated by the United States. Senor Mayor de Plazo read the usual edict, and the criminals appeared by ten at a time, and after being shot were taken away from the place of execution to make room for their companions. The first chief was shot alone, the two second chiefs were shot together—all in the midst of incessant cries in favour of the Queen and Spain. Justice being done, the Lieutenant Rey, in a speech to the soldiers and the people, expressed himself in strong and worthy terms, saying that the punishment inflicted was merited by these men, who, without a God, without a law, without a flag, came in order to attack our nationality, our religion, our Queen, and all other objects dear to our hearts." An eye-witness of the tragedy, writing to a New York paper, says: "I never saw men—and could scarcely have supposed it possible—conduct themselves at such an awful moment with the fortitude these men displayed under such trying circumstances. They were shot six at a time—i. e., twelve were brought to the place of execution, six made to kneel down and receive the fire of the soldiers, after which the remaining six were made to walk round their dead comrades and kneel opposite to them, when they also were shot. After being

stripped, and their bodies mutilated in the manner I have described, they were shoved, six or seven together, bound as they were, into hearses which were used last year for cholera cases. No coffins were allowed them; and I think the manner they were put into the hearses was equally as disgusting as their other acts: the heads of some were almost dragging on the ground, and it had more the appearance of a slaughter-cart, on its way to market from the slaughter-house, than that of a hearse conveying the dead bodies of human beings. A finer looking set of young men I never saw; they made not a single complaint, not a murmur against their sentence; and decency should have been shown to their dead bodies, in admiration for the heroism they displayed when brought out for execution. Not a muscle was seen to move, and they proved to the miserable rabble congregated to witness the horrible spectacle that, it being the fortune of war that they fell into the power of this Government, they were not afraid to die. It would have been a great consolation to these poor fellows, as they repeatedly asked, to see their consul, and through him to have sent their last adieus, and such little mementos as they had, to their beloved relations in the State. One handsome young fellow desired that his watch should be sent to his sweetheart; but Mr. Owen, the American Consul, did not even make application to the Captain-General to see these unfortunate countrymen in their distress, and their sacred wishes in their last moments have been unattended to." The main body, commanded by Lopez himself, were speedily met by the troops of the Spanish Government, and a series of desperate engagements took place in which it appears that the Spaniards were repulsed with the enormous loss of 1500 men, killed, and 500 wounded. General Enna, the second in command under Concha, the Captain-General, was killed while leading a charge of cavalry. At length, the invaders finding that they did not meet with the expected sympathy amongst the people, and were attacked by the very troops whom they expected to join them, they resolved to resort to the mountains, and with this object started for Pinar del Rio, but by the error or treachery of the guide were conducted to the coffee estate of Frias, where they had another encounter with the troops, which resulted in the loss of four or five men, which, with what were before lost, reduced the force at Frias to 220 men, including 12 or 14 wounded; with these they passed to Brujo, and spending the night in union, went to Martorenea or Candelaria, where, on the 21st, in number not exceeding 200 men, when breakfasting, they were surprised, attacked, and dispersed by the troops of the Queen. Lopez was taken in the interior, wandering alone—nearly exhausted from fatigue and hunger. He asked for something to eat at a farm-house, and permission to lie down; while asleep he was bound and made prisoner. Of his followers, 155 are now imprisoned, and are to be sent to Spain for ten years' confinement. These men said that their sufferings before being taken were intense. For several days they lived on the leaves of trees, and the last food they ate was the horse of General Lopez. They had no arms when taken. The remainder of the party have either been shot or have perished from hunger. Lopez was garroted on Monday morning, Sept. 1, at 7 o'clock. The scene of execution was at the "Punta," opposite the "Morro." There were assembled from 8000 to 10,000 troops, and as many citizens. A few minutes before 7 o'clock Lopez was brought forward, and ascended the platform with a firm and steady step. Facing the multitude, he made a short speech, and his last words were, "I die for my beloved Cuba." He then took his seat—the machine was adjusted; at the first twist of the screw his head dropped forward—and he was dead. Thus ended the career of General Lopez, so long the dread and terror of the Cuban authorities. In no instance (the prisoners say) have the Creoles of the island manifested the least disposition to join them. The excitement in Havannah was fast subsiding since the destruction of Lopez and his forces.

There has been another *Revolution in Nicaragua*.—On the 4th of August, General Munoz, the ex-Minister of War, at the head of a small body of troops, over-

threw the administration elected in May previous, and took the President, Don Jose Laurcano Pineda, and all his cabinet, except Dr. Jesus de la Rocha, prisoners, and sent them to Port La Union, Tigre Island, from whence the British steamer took them (report says) to San Juan de la Concordia. The Senate immediately assembled at Granada, for Munoz held Leon, the capital, and elected a provisional administration with Don Jose Montenegro as President. Munoz's faction assembled at Leon, and elected a president and a ministry. Munoz's government then sent their orders to the *employes* of the different departments and office-holders throughout the country, but almost all of them refused to acknowledge them. The American *Chargé d'Affaires* returned to Granada, and presented his credentials to President Montenegro, and was cordially received. The government were providing ammunition, arms, &c., and seemed determined to resist the insurgents. Public sentiment is said to be against Munoz in this rebellion, although heretofore he has been one of the most popular men in the country.

The Emperor of *Hayti*, Faustin I., who imitates Napoleon in everything, is said to be most anxious to be crowned with all the ceremonies of the Roman Catholic Church. He recently sent an ambassador to Rome to beg for a bishop, if it were only one *in partibus*, to consecrate him an Emperor by the grace of God and of the holy see. The Pope, who is displeased at the cavalier manner in which Faustin declared himself the head of the Haytian church, has flatly refused. But the Emperor does not despair; and he has spent the enormous sum of 30,000*l.* sterling in buying a throne, a praying desk, crosses, velvet, and silk. He has also built a throne-room with sumptuous decorations. He lately made a tour of his dominions, followed by an escort of 8000 men, whose appearance upon the frontiers of the Spanish part of the island, caused a panic in the minds of the inhabitants, who suspected an invasion of the Dominican republic. But it is stated that the officers in command of the French and English ships then gave notice that in case of any aggression they would jointly blockade Hayti.

NARRATIVE OF LITERATURE AND ART.

THE flattest season of the literary year received a temporary fillip the other day from the revelation of a curious literary imposture. The so-called "Baroness Von Beck," whose lately-published personal memoirs had recounted a series of extraordinary adventures and incidents in the Hungarian struggle which excited considerable interest in England, turns out to have been no baroness, but a common spy, who could not possibly have encountered such scenes or enjoyed such experiences as the book professes to record. The strangest part of the affair is, that none of the Hungarian exiles now in England, even those to whom many details in the narrative (if true) must have been minutely and personally familiar, appear to have seen reason to doubt its authenticity on the internal evidence merely. It will doubtless be discovered ultimately that whoever the writer of the book may have been (for if the facts attending the exposure be true it could hardly have been "the baroness"), such of the scenes narrated as had actually occurred were not unfamiliar to him, though probably much exaggerated in the telling. At any rate the incident is a curious one; and the memoirs of the soi-disant baroness may now take their place on that shelf in English libraries, which contains too many similar examples of literary skill debauched by imposture. That the book is clever and entertaining there can be no doubt whatever.

The books of the month worth mention are very briefly recounted. That which we think most noticeable for the original thought and speculation that is in it (offering here no opinion as to its philosophical value), appears to be an importation from America, though published first in England. It is called *Vestiges of Civilisation; or the Aetiology of History, Religious, Aesthetical, Political, and Philosophical*, and it will probably succeed in exciting attention. From America also we receive a well-written and animated history of the campaigns of the celebrated Indian chief, *Pontiac*, during his gallant "conspiracy" to expel the English colonists after the conquest of Canada. It is principally interesting for the picture it gives of the chief himself; and for a more favourable view of his plans, and of the sagacity which informed and shaped them, than Englishmen have been prepared for in the case of any chief of those tribes. To a foreign source are we likewise indebted for almost the only other book of importance in the month's list of publications. Mignet's second volume of the *Life of Mary Queen of Scots* has appeared, confirming all that was said of the merits of his first volume. The book is a clear and singularly impartial narrative, written in all fairness to both queens, and with as little abatement of Elizabeth's weakness and severity as of Mary's guilt and temptations. The value of the second volume consists mainly in the light thrown from foreign archives on the conspiracies against Elizabeth set on foot by Mary's Roman Catholic friends. Of English books the most interesting has been a collection of the poetical remains of *Thomas Lovell Beddoes*, a man who had as much of the true poetical faculty in him as any writer of this generation, though a strange impatience and waywardness of spirit, combined with some disadvantageous incidents of fortune, intercepted the fruit it should have borne. Still the volume now published, which contains his fragments, and the very interesting

memoir accompanying them, will be always prized by a select and influential class of readers and critics. To a very different branch of the department of biography the month has contributed a third volume of the *Life of Dr. Chalmers*; and in that of fiction we have to name *Marian WITHERS*, a novel by Miss Jewsbury, which has excited some attention; *The Fate*, another of Mr. James's agreeable gossiping narratives, half-historic half-domestic; a sylvan romance called *Smugglers and Foresters*: some tales edited by Lady Dormer; and a social novel called *John Drayton*, of which the object is generally to uphold beliefs and institutions as they are. When we have added that sundry *Illustrated Catalogues*, *Handbooks*, and other publications connected with the now closing Exhibition, have likewise made their appearance (including a pleasant squib by Mr. Richard Doyle, and a more solemn and remarkable squib Mr. Samuel Warren), together with some medical and by some law books, a new edition of Sir Howard Douglas's *Treatise on Naval Gunnery*, a republication of his political tracts on the influences of the popedom by Mazzini, a new and most complete *Mercantile Navy List*, and a very lively account of a visit to the Californian diggings under the title of *Golden Dreams and Waking Realities*,—a very fair idea will have been given of the class of books that have been published during the month just closed.

Mr. Keith, of Edinburgh, has published a very good likeness of Mr. Macaulay, the historian, in mezzotint.

A further portion of the sculptured remains, recovered from the *Ruins of Nineveh* by the exertions of Mr. Layard, has been received at the British Museum. The whole of the collection will be arranged in the new gallery of sculptural antiquities during the recess. The Syrian gallery, the Elgin room, and Egyptian gallery are now arranged.

COMMERCIAL RECORD.

BANKRUPTS.

From the Gazette of Sept. 2nd. W. JAMES and C. PAXMAN, Hare-street, Bethnal-green, silk-dyers.—J. and T. Y. WALL, Chatham, brewers.—H. A. NEWMAN, Jewry-street, clothier.—W. STRANGE, jun., Paternoster-row, bookseller.—D. BONNET, Mark-lane, wine-merchant.—W. H. LUCKINS, Kennington-row, coach-maker.—R. THORPE, Shaft, last-manufacturer.—J. PHILLIPS, Longton, grocer.—T. WEBB, Stourbridge, clothier.—J. MIDDLEY, Hull, carpenter.—M. PATTISON, South-shields, ironmonger.

Sept. 5th. J. VALENTINE, Northampton, tea-dealer.—J. BRUDENELL, Windsor, brewer.—T. E. NEWSTEAD, Norwich, draper.—F. WINDLE and H. M. SHAW, Liverpool, drapers.—R. N. FORSYTH, Birmingham, victualler.—J. L. MUMFORD, Stoke-Gabriel, Devonshire, miller.—J. FORMAN and R. FROW, Hull, builders.

Sept. 9th. T. HARRISON, Adde-street, agent.—E. SHEFFIELD, Tomlin-terrace, Poplar, builder.—H. G. WOOLCOOT, Everit-street, Russell-square, fringe-manufacturer.—J. R. TAYLOR, Chancery-lane, stationer.—J. LANE, High-street, Marylebone, tailor.—W. H. OSOORN, Edbury-street, Pimlico, wine-merchant.—J. WATSON, Skipton, linen-draper.—J. C. HOLT, Halifax, innkeeper.—J. FORMAN and R. FROW, Hull, joiners.—T. MILWARD, Gover-street, miller.—G. N. MANZAVINO, Manchester, merchant.—G. D. ROBINSON, Manchester, coach-builder.—J. LILLEY and A. ASHMALE, Liverpool, merchants.

Sept. 12th. D. FRENCH and A. SANDS, Coal-exchange, coal-factors.—S. CANNOCK, jun., Kent-terrace, Camden-town, tobacconist.—E. LACEY, Birmingham, glass-dealer.—M. LISTER, Painswick, clothier.—J. BEACH, Bradford, Yorkshire, apothecary.—T. HURST, Warrington, printer.—S. WALKER, Little-lever, Lancashire, dyer.

Sept. 16th. J. COOK, Assembly-row, Mile-end-road, builder.—E. and H. MARTYN, Aldgate-high-street, woollen-draper.—R. and P. ISENGER, Littlechampton, merchants.—E. SOLOMON, Haydon-square, jeweller.—J. S. MARWOLD, Tipton, provision-dealer.—W. BELL, Abergavenny, pianoforte-dealer.—J. THOMPSON, Leeds, glass-dealer.

Sept. 19th. E. U. SPASHETT, Barking, mast-maker.—A. CLARE, Bear-gardens, Southwark, plumber.—J. WESTLEY, Playhouse-yard, bookbinder.—W. COLEMAN, Coventry, chemist.—W. H. and A. SIMMONS, Bristol, tailors.—J. COLLINS, Clitheroe, provision-dealer.

Sept. 26th. F. W. MACANDREW, Mill-wall, Poplar, brewer.—T. EASON, Milton-next-Sittingbourne, Kent, brewer.—J. FAIRMAN, Great-St-Helens, City, commission-agent.—T. WARD, Bond-court, Walbrook, City, wine-merchant.

BANKRUPTCIES ANNULLED.

Sept. 2nd. J. MACDUFF, Llanelly, auctioneer.

Sept. 4th. H. HAYES, Regent-street, draper.—J. BROWN, Deal, grocer.

Sept. 12th. H. G. HARRISON, Hoxton-old-town, wheelwright.

Sept. 16th. G. BUTCHER, Holborn-hill, china-dealer.

Sept. 26th. W. SMITH, Westhill-grove, Wandsworth-road, Surrey, timber-dealer.

MONEY MARKET.

The unfavourable intelligence from the Cape of Good Hope operated prejudicially in the Stock Market, and it still continues to be heavy. The Foreign Funds have all declined also, but slightly. The Share Market has on the whole been firm.

STOCKS.	Highest.	Lowest.	Latest.
Three per Cent. Consols . . .	96 $\frac{1}{2}$	95 $\frac{3}{4}$	96 $\frac{1}{2}$
Three per Cent. Reduced . . .	97 $\frac{1}{2}$	95 $\frac{3}{4}$	95 $\frac{3}{4}$
Three and a quarter per Cents. .	98 $\frac{3}{4}$	98 $\frac{3}{4}$	98 $\frac{3}{4}$
Long Annuities, Jan. 1860 . . .	7 $\frac{3}{4}$	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	7 $\frac{3}{4}$
Bank Stock, 7 per cent. . . .	214	215 $\frac{1}{2}$	215 $\frac{1}{2}$
India Stock, ex. div.	262	260	260
Exchequer Bills	48	44	46
India Bonds £1000	52s. prm.	42s. prm.	47s. prm.

FOREIGN FUNDS—LATEST PRICES.

Brazilian 5 per cent., 91 $\frac{1}{2}$	Peruvian 5 per cent., 90 $\frac{1}{2}$
Buenos Ayres 6 per cent., 56	Portuguese 4 per cent., 34 $\frac{1}{2}$
Danish 5 per cent., 104 $\frac{1}{2}$	Russian 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., 102
Dutch 4 p. c. certificates, 92 $\frac{3}{4}$	Spanish 5 per cent., acc., 20 $\frac{1}{2}$
Mexican 5 per cent., 26 $\frac{1}{2}$	

Paid.	RAILWAYS.	Highest.	Lowest.	Latest.
100	Brighton and South Coast.	93 $\frac{1}{2}$	90 $\frac{1}{2}$	92 $\frac{1}{2}$
all	Blackwall	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	6 $\frac{1}{4}$	6 $\frac{1}{2}$
50	Caledonian	11 $\frac{1}{2}$	9 $\frac{1}{2}$	11 $\frac{1}{2}$
20	Eastern Counties . . .	6	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	6
50	Edinburgh and Glasgow .	28	28	28
all	Great Northern	16	15 $\frac{1}{2}$	16
100	Great Western	79 $\frac{1}{2}$	76 $\frac{1}{2}$	79 $\frac{1}{2}$
50	Hull and Selby	101	101	101
100	Lancashire and Yorkshire	54 $\frac{1}{2}$	48 $\frac{1}{2}$	54 $\frac{1}{2}$
100	London & North-Western	115	113	115
100	Midland	46	42 $\frac{1}{2}$	46
25	North British	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	5 $\frac{1}{2}$
30	South-Eastern and Dover.	18 $\frac{1}{2}$	16 $\frac{1}{2}$	18 $\frac{1}{2}$
100	South-Western	80 $\frac{1}{2}$	79 $\frac{1}{2}$	80 $\frac{1}{2}$
25	York, Newc., and Berwick	18 $\frac{1}{2}$	16 $\frac{1}{2}$	18 $\frac{1}{2}$
50	York and North Midland	18 $\frac{1}{2}$	17 $\frac{1}{2}$	18 $\frac{1}{2}$

FOREIGN RAILWAYS—LATEST PRICES.

Boulogne and Amiens, 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	Paris and Ronen, 22 $\frac{1}{2}$
East Indian, 21 pm.	Paris and Strasbourg, 11 $\frac{1}{2}$
Namur and Liege, 6	Ronen and Havre, 9 $\frac{1}{2}$
Northern of France, 14 $\frac{1}{2}$	Tours and Nantes, 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ dis.

CORN MARKET—LONDON WEEKLY AVERAGES.

Wheat, per qr., 37s. 8d.; Oats, 18s. 4d.; Rye, 26s. 2d.; Beans, 28s. 6d.; Peas, 25s. 2d.; Flour (town-made), delivered, per 250 lbs., 38s. to 40s.; American, per barrel of 166lbs., 23s. to 25s.

PROVISIONS—LATEST WHOLESALE PRICES.

Bacon, per cwt.—Waterford, 42s. to 60s.; Belfast, 38s. to 40s.	Eggs, per 120, English, 6s. 3d. to 7s.
Beef, per 8 lbs., mid. to prime, 2s. 4d. to 3s. 2d.	Hams, per cwt.—York or Cumberland, 74s. to 84s.; Irish, 60s. to 68s.; Westphalia, 48s. to 56s.
Butter, per cwt.—Carlisle, 1st, 74s. to 80s.; Waterford, 1st, 72s. to 76s.; Dutch Friesland, 82s. to 84s.; Limerick, 1st, 68s. to 73s.	Mutton, per 8 lbs., 3s. to 4s.
Cheese, per cwt., Cheshire, 50s. to 54s.; Wiltshire, double, 50s. to 58s.; Dutch, new Gouda, 26s. to 28s.; American, 30s. to 34s.	Pork, per 8 lbs., 2s. 8d. to 3s. 6d.; American, new, per barrel, 46s. to 55s.
	Veal, per 8 lbs., 2s. 6d. to 3s. 6d.
	Potatoes, per ton.—Kent and Essex Ware, 40s. to 70s.; Kent and Essex Midding, 25s. to 45s.; Chats, 20s. to 25s.

GROCERY—LATEST WHOLESALE PRICES

Cocoa, per cwt. Ord. to good red Trinidad, 38s. to 52s.; Brazil, 26s. to 28s.	Sago, per cwt.—Pearl, 17s. to 19s.
Coffee, per cwt.—Good ord., native Ceylon, 38s. to 40s. 6d.; Mocha, 78s. to 88s.; St. Domingo, 38s. to 39s.; Sumatra, 35s. to 36s.	Sugar, per cwt.—British West India, 30s. 6d. to 31s. 6d.; Mauritius, brown, 26s. to 38s. 6d.; Brazil, 27s. to 41s.
Rice, per cwt.—Bengal mid. to fine white, 8s. 6d. to 10s. 6d.; Madras, 7s. to 9s. 6d.	Tea, per lb. (duty 2s. 1d.)—Ord. Congon, 9d. to 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.; Sou-chong, com. to fine, 10d. to 2s. 6d.; ord. to fine Hyson, 1s. 1d. to 3s.; Imperial, 1s. to 2s. 6d.

Candles, per 12 lbs. 4s. 6d. to 5s. | Coals, per ton, 15s. 3d. to 15s. 9d.

OILS.

Pale Seal, per 252 gals., 33l. 10s.	Palm, per ton, 27l. to 27l. 3s.
Sperm, 35l. to 37l.	Olive, Gallipoli, 40l. 10s. to 41l.
Cod, 36l. 10s.	

THE
HOUSEHOLD NARRATIVE
OF CURRENT EVENTS.

1851.]

FROM THE 28TH SEPTEMBER TO THE 28TH OCTOBER.

[PRICE 2d.

THE THREE KINGDOMS.

IT is the remark of quaint old Fuller that this world affordeth no new accidents, but in the same sense wherein we call it a new moon, which is the old one in another shape, and no other than what had been formerly. Yet we must admit that, in the new circumstances with which old actions return to us thus "furnished over," it is often extremely difficult to recognise the past. The circumstance makes the essential difference.

Hungary has enjoyed a free monarchical constitution for a longer period than any country in Europe, with the sole exception of England; and has enjoyed it for a longer uninterrupted period than England herself. During eight centuries there have been but two breaks in her line of kings. John Huniades, a man of humble origin, was her Gubernator, or Governing President, in the middle of the fifteenth century, and under that title rallied her entire population to arms. In the middle of the nineteenth century the same exploit has been again performed, under the same title of Gubernator, by a man of as doubtful lineage and as unquestionable genius,—Louis Kossuth. But the resemblances are less impressive than the contrasts in their destiny. Huniades perished after a glorious victory, and Kossuth has been saved after a terrible defeat; while the power of the Sultan to which the one sacrificed his life, is that to which the other owes his freedom. Circumstances have altered all. Four centuries ago, men fought for religion where they are now fighting for civil freedom. The Sultan of that day is what the Czar is to-day. Four centuries have effectually clipped the claws of the Turk, and have lifted the once wretched vassal of the hordes of Tartary into the bugbear and scourge of Europe.

"It has been our fate," exclaimed M. Kossuth, in that remarkable speech at Winchester which could nowhere have been so appropriately spoken as in the most ancient capital of the constitutional monarchy of England, "to struggle for the liberties of Europe, as once we had struggled for her Christianity." This is true; and M. Kossuth's exposition of the truth is one that the statesmen of this country should look into attentively, with whatever feeling they may choose to regard the Hungarian hero himself. Not more correctly could it be said of the first than of the last "Governor" of Hungary, that the struggle which he led was not one of faction against faction, of democracy against aristocracy, or of poverty against wealth. As in the fifteenth century the whole nation rose as one man against the irruption of the followers of Mahomet, they rose with not less unanimity in the nineteenth against the inroad of as great a barbarism. They went into the field to defend their constitution against revolutionary despotism, to defend their independence against foreign invasion. The newly-enfranchised peasantry were not less ardent in the cause than those who had been for centuries in exclusive possession of the full rights of citizenship. Of those privileged classes, to their eternal honour be it spoken, it had been the aim for several years before Kossuth became their leader to extend the full benefits of the constitution to the unprivileged. To wonder that this should have been deferred so late, and that a nation which possessed the germs of civil freedom before even England should in their full growth so far have been outstripped by Englishmen, is not simply to forget those constant wars with the Turks of which Hungary bore the brunt and Europe reaped the advantage, but also to forget that on the head of the King of Hungary, who was also Emperor of Austria, to use the striking language of M. Kossuth at Winchester, "two crowns had been laid which never could agree, which never could be united, the one a constitutional, the other an absolute crown."

The aggression of the Turk repelled, the influence of the Austrian had to be resisted; and in such circumstances it was no trifling achievement for Hungary merely to maintain unimpaired the vitality of its system of self-government. Still, while not only chartered liberties but the very habits and traditions of self-government became gradually lost to every other continental people, the Hungarians maintained those habits and prescriptive rights through good and evil times; and still, in spite of every disadvantage, reforms were not lost sight of. Let any one, forgetting even the name of Kossuth or that such a man has existed, examine the history of the Austrian Empire for the last half century, and he will find it marked by a series of efforts, on the part of the privileged classes in Hungary to raise up the unprivileged to their own level, and on the part of the cabinet at Vienna to sink down every class to the level of the unprivileged. Seeing this, if he be a true conservative, to which side should his instincts lead him? Should they be with a people defending its ancestral rights, or with a camarilla bent on overthrowing them? This is the point of view which modern statesmen have overlooked. They have confounded the Hungarian movement with other resistances to old authority. They have not been able to recognise a people fighting for the inviolability of ancient liberties, and to support the sanctity of a royal word. Or they must also have seen, in the success of such a struggle, the only sure and safe guarantee for a continued maintenance of order and security in the east of Europe.

For what now is Austria? Strange as the remark may sound, her loss in late events has been the greatest. Her real policy should have been, in the presence of modern changes, to cherish the ancient constitution which existed in Hungary, to have imparted to her hereditary provinces new institutions adapted to the age, and to have rallied round her the heterogeneous peoples composing her empire by the watchwords of self-government, civilisation, and free-trade. She would thus again have incurred that noble debt which Maria Theresa so eagerly confessed when she declared that she owed her crown

to Hungary. And could such have been the condition of the service, those solemn words which were lately used at Winchester need not have expressed any agony of self-reproach, or any feeling but of glorious pride. "The agitation was great in Vienna," said M. Kossuth, "as in every other country in Europe, save this England only, which, having once established its peace by revolution, can enjoy its public liberties without any desire for another. On the Continent all was movement, and the government of Austria hesitated to give us our rights. I went up to the Imperial Palace and told them, be just to my fatherland and I will give you peace and tranquillity in Vienna. They promised me to be just, and in twenty-four hours I gave them peace and tranquillity in Vienna; and before the Eternal God who will make responsible to Him my soul, before History the independent judge of men and events, I have a right to say that the House of Hapsburgh then owed its existence to me." Even so; and for this tenure of existence, sanctioned by glorious watchwords and guaranteeing the progress of civilisation, it must be admitted that the Hapsburghs made a sorry exchange when they betook themselves to Russian despotism, restriction, and barbarism. At no distant day will be made more plain than at present all they have gained by it and Europe lost.

Russian sway is doubtless powerful for evil, but it is very powerless for good. It may crush, but cannot reproduce. It is represented by cities burnt, not by cities rebuilt; by ancient proprietors ruined, not by new ones enriched; by old channels of trade blocked up, not by new resources opened. Peace cannot permanently be maintained by such a power, unless it be such peace as the Roman historian ascribed to solitudes. The interference of Russia decided the character of the struggle between Austria and Hungary; and the statesmen of the civilised portions of Europe may yet have to render account for having silently sanctioned the flagrant pretence that Russia's motive in so sacrificing her armies and her treasures was the disinterested wish to strengthen Austria and maintain the balance of power in Europe. With the first Russian bayonet that crossed the frontier the moral and material influence of Austria was broken; and whether this was the interest of France, of England, of civilisation, will have to be determined hereafter. Austria's natural and just position in Europe is that of a barrier against the advance of Russia towards the south, and for this every wise statesman would have supported her to the last; but if she no longer fulfils this condition, her continuance is no longer called for. Chained to Russia by the indissoluble and unceasing necessity of support against her own subjects, her empire becomes but an advanced outpost of absolutism against the progress and the liberties of the west. Can any one doubt that she occupies at this moment precisely that position, who surveys the state of things throughout Germany? The functions of the house of Hapsburgh as a dynasty, as M. Kossuth said at Winchester, are gone; and the present object of the eloquent Hungarian seems to be to show the English people and their statesmen by what substitute they may even yet be replaced. Could Hungary but have been brought victoriously through her struggle, the various races now disunited by Austria might have been attracted and consolidated around her by her liberal institutions. United to us by moral and political as well as material ties, she might then have taken that place in the east of Europe which we occupy in the west, as the representative of national constitutional liberty; and as in former times she was the advanced guard and barrier against Turkey, the strength and extent of her north-eastern boundary might again have made her, in the interest of Austria as of every civilised land, the natural and tenable position against Russia.

There is no communism, no socialism, no red republicanism in all this; and most admirably have the speeches of M. Kossuth, since he arrived in England, been framed to dispel such nightmare fancies from future association with the Hungarian cause. "It was to increase the liberties and the security of the crown that we in Hungary endeavoured to widen and enlarge the basis on which our constitution was founded, so as to include the whole population, and thereby give them an interest in maintaining social order." That word has gone forth and will have its effect in England. It is never too late to sympathise with a heroic people crushed by brute force because they would not forego their birthright or grovel before an usurper. It is immaterial now what M. Kossuth may have done or said at any former time. It matters not with whom he may have fraternised, or to what hasty counsels he may at times have been inclined to yield. All such personalities have been thrown aside in his noble identification with the cause he has so ably represented at Winchester and Southampton. That cause survives and exists for the future, independent even of him. "It is not the living under a government called a republic that will secure the liberties of a people. Human hearts and human minds may require different regulation and training according to circumstances. So also in nations a difference of position, of policy, of wants, of principles, of action, may require different forms of government; and that government cannot be bad which secures to the people liberty of opinion, social order, and the impartial protection of property and person of every class and every member of society. England wants no change, because she is governed by a constitutional monarchy under which all classes enjoy the full benefits of liberty and freedom. The people of England are therefore masters of their own fate, defenders of their institutions, obedient to the laws, and vigilant in their behaviour; and the country has become, as it must ever continue under such institutions, great, glorious, and free."

The people of England are not likely to show themselves insensible to such language as this. They will be apt to infer that the country which sent forth such a speaker must in many particulars of its people and its polity be strikingly akin to their own; and all enquiries they make will confirm that impression. Let us add that the Hungarian leader would do well to avail himself of his presence amongst us, to apply his own observation of the working of our English institutions to the correction of any excess in the theories of friends who surround him. The first subject he selected for praise, when he stepped on the shore at Southampton, was the importance of local administration, and the value of municipal institutions. With proper allowances let that be fairly admitted; but should one of his most eager welcomers and partizans take the opportunity of attempting to show him, as he has already undertaken to prove to ourselves, that just as Hungary is now sinking under the illegal suppression of her local and provincial courts of justice, so England at this moment is less essentially free than she was a hundred years ago because a curb has been put upon her mayors and aldermen, upon county courts, upon the powers of justices in petty sessions, and upon parish overseers, settlements, and workhouses, M. Kossuth will do well to turn incredulous away. It is only in the earlier stages of society that extensive local administration can be salutary or desirable. Civilisation has no choice but to bring centralisation with it; not to destroy, but to regulate, the uses of local municipalities. Justly to balance individual and local activity with central system and correspondence of parts, remains

still the problem of perfect good government. And let M. Kossuth be assured that if what he states be true, as most certainly it is, that all the Continental governments have been enfeebled as well as corrupted by unbalanced centralisation, neither is it less true that unwatched and unregulated localisation has had the effect of very greatly retarding the political growth of the English people.

The remark may not unfitly carry us from the eloquence by which M. Kossuth is making himself heard over Europe, to that very different kind of eloquence with which our local squirearchies have, for the last month, made ring from side to side our barn-roofs and tavern-parlours. It has been the month of agricultural meetings, the idle time between harvest and fox-hunting, when prize oxen and prize labourers occupy the fields, and the farmers are harangued by the landlords, and (now and then) the landlords lectured by the farmers. Both Mr. Disraeli and Mr. Fosskett have had their several adherents in these displays, and Paul has continued to persecute Benjamin through the tongues of bullying parsons and infuriated squires. The Rev. John Cox of Hinckford declares that unless her Majesty restores the Corn-laws he is not disposed to give many years' purchase for her crown; and Mr. Welch of Taxley Hall denounces German sinecurists and pensioned foreign potentates, after expounding a theory of tithes that would confiscate half that kind of property in the country. On the other hand, Mr. Harcourt, Mr. Henley, Mr. Palmer, Mr. Adderley, Mr. Clive, and Mr. Child, have successively read Protectionist recantations; and have warned the farmers not to rely on getting what is precisely the last thing they are ever likely to get, Lord Derby's five shilling duty, which Mr. Alcock has further had the politeness to characterise as a dirty, pitiful, trumpery, absurd piece of nonsense. Nevertheless, Lord Granby sticks to his ancient sign-post. He is for the old, creaking, groaning, swinging, rusty Protectionist clap-trap; and he declares that for his life he cannot see how, without a duty on corn, we can continue to pay our army and navy, or, as he expresses it in his fine rhetorical flourish, how we are to "preserve our hearths inviolate, and secure to our virgin shores freedom from a foreign foe." Above all this disjointed clatter there meanwhile quietly arise certain facts, financial and statistical, quarterly revenue returns and so forth, which, proclaiming a tolerably full exchequer, seem to point out to sensible folk the very best and easiest way of preserving (if we must adopt that fine style of expression) the virginity of our shores. From these tables it appears that not only manufacturers, traders, and ship-owners, are in a high condition of prosperity, but that there is equal reason to infer the general prosperity of all classes, from the extraordinary increase of consumption of every kind. When farmers with a grain of sense begin to study such statistics as these, they will awaken to the consciousness that, whether for past suffering or future expectation, it is not legislation but landlordism that they have mainly to look to. And already has the magnanimous Mr. G. F. Young betrayed his fears in this direction, by a moving appeal to the pockets of his friends.

Into other discontents just now very audible, there is no need to enter. The Exhibition could hardly close to the satisfaction of everybody, after leaving fourteen thousand exhibitors quite unnoticed, selecting three thousand for special commendation, and singing out some hundred and seventy of these for commendation more special still. But it is a subject which cannot very fairly be discussed till the juries have published their reports; and in other respects the month has been barren of leading incidents. The Queen has made enthusiastic progress through Lancashire; the Irish exodus continues, and the American ambassador has been making a tour round Ireland which is wittily compared to the walk which a certain personage one day took to see how his snug little farm the earth went on. Dr. Newman has been repeating his belief in miracles, and Lord Londonderry his faith in the speedy release of Abd-el-Kader, with about equal attention from bystanders. To conclude, reformers seem to be gradually becoming eager and expectant as to Lord John's promised bill; and the best promise yet thrown out in connection with it, has been an assurance from the Solicitor-General to the effect that he had refused one of the high legal appointments lately in the gift of the crown, because he felt that as a measure of reform was impending his proper place was in the House of Commons. The proposal might or might not, added Sir Page Wood, meet with general acceptance; but that it would be a substantial measure of enlargement of the franchise he entertained no doubt whatever.

NARRATIVE OF POLITICS.

THE Agricultural Meetings held during this month have been chiefly remarkable for *Defections from the Cause of Protection*.—At the meeting of the Watlington Agricultural Society, Mr. Henley and Mr. Vernon Harcourt, two of the members of Oxfordshire—at the meeting of the Royal East Berks Association, Mr. Palmer, one of the members for the county—and at the North Staffordshire meeting, Mr. Adderley and Mr. Smith Child, the members for that division of the county—concurred in saying that, looking to the state of the country and of public opinion, a return to protective duties is out of the question. At the meeting of the South Buckinghamshire Agricultural Association, on the 7th inst., Mr. Disraeli at great length repeated the counsels which he had previously given at Aylesbury to the farmers of the northern division of the county. At the yearly meeting of the Worcestershire Agricultural Society, Sir John Pakington expressed an opinion that the question of protection or no protection, re-enactment of a corn-law or extension of the present system, cannot be settled by merely one general election. He declared that all the prophecies which had been made both for and against the repeal of the Corn-laws had signally failed; and claimed that the tillers of the soil are "undoubtedly entitled to relief from all burdens in the shape of taxation which unduly press upon them."

The Catholic Defence Association has put forth its promised "address," commencing with a declaration

that the Ecclesiastical Titles Act is aimed not at the "assumption of titles," but at "the very vitality of the Roman Catholic faith," it recounts the formal steps by which the society was organised. A large space is occupied in simply reproducing the resolutions moved and adopted at the aggregate meeting in the Rotunda; all the Roman Catholic Prelates mentioned having formally prefixed to their names the ecclesiastical titles which the act has made illegal—"Archbishop of Armagh"; "Archbishop of Tuam"—"of Cashel," &c. The objects of the Association are then explained, much as they have been before. The committee who have drawn up the address say—"They never can sufficiently impress on the minds of the people the great fact, that all our hopes of redress, under Divine Providence, are centered in the creation and sustinment of a Parliamentary party, ready to defend at all hazard, with an independent spirit, our civil and religious liberties." "It will become an imperative duty to organise and marshal the elective power of each constituent body so as to insure a right direction being given to every available vote, and thereby to evince in the most solemn manner unalterable attachment to their civil and religious freedom in all its practical reality." "These great objects cannot be accomplished without combined exertion, great personal sacrifices, and the command of large funds. We therefore call upon you to enrol yourselves as members of the Catholic Defence Association, and appeal with confidence not only to the Catholics of the British empire, but to our brethren in every country

and every clime, to contribute to this great enterprise, to which we have been prompted by our unwavering attachment to the faith handed down to us from the Apostles, and which, as Catholics, we deem more precious than our lives." The address is "signed on behalf of the General Committee," by " + Paul, Archbishop of Armagh, Primate of all Ireland, Chairman, and William Keogh, Secretary," of the Association.

The following are the heads of the *Franchise Reform Bill* which the Court of Common Council have determined shall be brought into Parliament in the ensuing session:—"That every person who shall occupy premises in the city of London for a period of a year and a day, and shall pay scot and bear lot, shall be a freeman and a citizen, and shall be entitled to all the benefits and privileges and be subjected to all the duties thereof. That every freeman and citizen be rated to some municipal, parliamentary, or parochial rate, to an amount of not less than 10*l*. That all reference to the register of voters for members of Parliament be repealed. That the roll of freemen and citizens be made out in the first week of October; to be revised by the aldermen and Common Council, in wardmote, in the first week of November following; with a provision that due notice be given in each ward of times when and places where such revision shall be appointed to take place. That in the absence of the Alderman the Lord Mayor act in his stead. That the qualifications for candidates for the Common Council be the same as those of the electors; and that provisions be made to prevent any person being a candidate for the office of Alderman or Common Councillman, who may not have paid his debts in full, in the event of his having been bankrupt, insolvent, or having compounded with his creditors. That the qualifications for Alderman be those of the freemen and citizens as aforesaid, and that the Alderman be elected for a period not exceeding seven years. That the act of 11th George I. c. 18, (Election Act,) be further amended as follows:—"That freemen occupiers be entitled to vote in all elections in Common Hall in addition to the Livermen. That the poll at elections in Common Hall be limited to one day. That no person be eligible to be a candidate at elections in Common Hall for the offices of Chamberlain and Bridge-master without seven days' notice of his being a candidate. That all enactments of the present Election Acts inconsistent with the foregoing be repealed."

At the second general meeting of the *Suffolk Agricultural Relief Association*, (a body consisting of tenant-farmers,) held at Bury St. Edmund's on the 16th, the following resolution was agreed to:—"That this meeting regards the present aspect of public affairs as highly favourable to the advocacy of the principles of this association: and that it would rejoice to witness statesmen who at present deal in doubtful terms come forward and ingenuously declare their principles and propound their plans for the improvement of the condition of the farmers."

A public meeting of merchants and others interested in the *Communications with India and China, via Egypt*, was held at the London Tavern on the 14th, for the purpose of considering and adopting such means as may be thought most advisable, by memorialising the government or otherwise, in order to avert the danger which now menaces the important British interests connected with our colonies and possessions in the East. The meeting was numerous and respectfully attended, and among the gentlemen on the platform were Messrs. A. Anderson, M.P., M'Gregor, M.P., Aglionby, M.P., General Briggs, Mr. S. Gregson, Mr. Larking, Mr. Barton, Mr. Foster, Mr. De Salis, Mr. Briggs, Mr. Ewart, Mr. R. Brooks, Mr. T. Fox, &c. The chair was occupied by Mr. Samuel Gregson, the chairman of the East India and China Association, and a gentleman of high standing in the East India trade. The meeting was addressed by the chairman, Mr. Briggs, Mr. Foster (Member of Council at Port Philip), Mr. M'Gregor, General Briggs, and Mr. Aglionby. The following important resolutions were unanimously agreed to:—"That a safe, speedy, commodious, and economical means of transit through Egypt has become essential to the security and good

government of our Indian empire, to the extension of commercial intercourse between Europe and the East, to the industrial and social improvement of Egypt; and is opposed neither to the interests nor the legitimate ambition of any nation on earth.—That the interference of the Ottoman Porte in the internal administration of Egypt, as recently manifested by its assumption of the power to prevent the construction of the Egyptian Railway, and to divest the Pasha of Egypt of the necessary authority to maintain order in that country, is calculated to injure the important British interests involved in the facility and safety of the transit through Egypt of the mails, passengers, and goods, to and from the East. That it is therefore expedient to press upon her Majesty's government the necessity of a prompt and active interposition to prevent the Porte from proceeding further in the course which she has in this respect pursued; and that, with this view, the memorial to the prime minister now ready be adopted and put in course of signature.—That this meeting desire to convey to his Highness Abbas Pasha, Viceroy of Egypt, the assurance of their sympathy and of their support by every legitimate means in the present position of his affairs; a sympathy and support which they consider he has fully earned by the liberal, active, and judicious manner in which he has devoted, and proposes to devote, his resources to the improvement and security of the transit of the mails, travellers, and property, to and from the East.—That a copy of this resolution be transmitted or presented to his Highness in such manner as the committee before named may think proper."—A committee was appointed to communicate with government, and otherwise further the objects of the meeting.

A great meeting of the leading members of all the boards of guardians in the province of Munster was held at Limerick on the 16th, in opposition to the order for *Repayment of the Famine Advances*. The attendance was extremely numerous and influential. Sir Richard De Burgh presided. A letter from Lord John Russell, to Mr. John O'Brien, was read; in which Lord John said:—"Any statements showing the heavy pressure of poor-rate and the difficulty of supporting the poor will be attentively considered by the government; but no government can give any countenance to the doctrine of repudiation which has been so unfortunately broached in some parts of Ireland." On the motion of Lord Clarina, seconded by Sir Lucius O'Brien, it was resolved—"That a memorial be presented to the First Lord of the Treasury respecting the distressed condition of the Munster Union, and the impolicy of enforcing the repayment of the consolidated annuities at the present juncture." The memorial was then read. It argued that neither the government nor parliament were aware, when the act was passed, of the burden which it would impose on large portions of the province of Munster: it acknowledged that the waste of the money advanced could not be fairly laid on the administrators of the public funds—"for documents laid on the table of the houses of parliament, at the time of the reform of the poor-law in England, a country in which the system of self-government has been so long established, show that, when similar systems were tried in any of the English parishes, similar results ensued;" it pointed out that a persistence in the order for repayment would accelerate the depopulation of the province, and the flight of capital for "refuge under another flag." Therefore, while disclaiming "the wish to evade any payment which justice and sound policy may sanction," it earnestly impressed upon the government the strong conviction of the meeting "that the payment of the advances should be for the present suspended; that the calculations erroneously made of the liabilities of each district should be corrected; and that an intention of reconsidering the whole question should be at once announced." The memorial was adopted unanimously; and a committee was nominated for communication with the government.

The Hon. Captain Duncomb was, on the 17th inst., elected Member for the East Riding of Yorkshire, in the room of the deceased Mr. Broadley.

William Millegan, Esq. was, on the 21st inst., elected member for the Borough of Bradford, in the room of

the late William Busfield, Esq. Mr. Millegan was the only candidate, all his opponents having retired from the field. He was the first Mayor of Bradford, is one of the leading merchants of the borough, and has rendered essential service to the cause of free trade.

NARRATIVE OF LAW AND CRIME.

A SINGULAR case of *Innocence under Suspicious Circumstances* occurred at Bow Street on the 30th ult. Levi Langley, a youth employed at the White Hart public house in Long-Acre, was charged with stealing 32l. from the landlord. Mr. Williamson, the landlord, had secreted the money (consisting of two cheques, a 5l. note, and four sovereigns) upon a shelf in his wine-cellar, where it was placed in a bag behind some bottles. One day the bag was missing, and as no one had access to the key of the cellar, except the boy Langley, he was at once suspected, and given into custody. He was examined at Bow Street, and it was suggested that he must have watched his master at the time he was secret- ing the money, as in no other way could the robbery be accounted for. The prisoner persisted in his entire innocence of the charge, but he was remanded. In the mean time sergeant Thomson, one of the most useful officers in the F. division, was employed to investigate the matter. Having been directed to the spot where the money was deposited, he commenced searching the shelves and bins in that portion of the cellar, and soon discovered traces of the bag and cheques, which had been dragged away, and mangled by the rats. Some of the fragments had been scattered about, and a sovereign had been carried to a considerable distance; but the whole of the property was fortunately discovered. Of course the poor lad was immediately discharged.

Margaret Willis and Eleanor Shannon, two women of notorious character, were charged at the Worship Street police court on the 30th of September, with *Decoying Three Boys into a House of Ill Fame for the Purpose of Robbery*. William Miles, a boy of 13 years of age, the son of a mechanic at Mile-end, stated, that while passing through Brick Lane, Spitalfields, on the preceding evening, in the company of two other boys of much the same age, they were stopped by the women at the bar, who addressed them in disgusting language and tried to induce them to accompany them home to their lodgings. They all of them refused to do so, and were hurrying away to escape from them, when the woman Willis suddenly snatched his cap off his head and ran with it into one of the houses in an adjoining court. He followed her into the passage, and entreated her to return him his cap, and she promised that she would do so if his two friends came and asked her for it also. He accordingly returned to the other boys and persuaded them to go with him, and all of them went into one of the parlours, which Willis had entered; but the moment they got into the room, she locked the door, and then turning sharply upon them, exclaimed, "Now, if you don't show me all the money you've got, you don't go safe out of this place." They were all very much frightened, and the witness pulled out of his pocket all the money he had, consisting only of sixpence in silver and some halfpence, and the instant the woman saw it she seized him by the arm and violently forced it out of his hand. She then robbed the second boy of all the money he had in a similar manner, but, on finding that she could not get any money from the third youth, as he had no money about him, she grasped hold of the poker, and, opening the room door, told them that unless they instantly left the house and went quietly out of the neighbourhood it would be the worse for them, as she would dash their brains out. They were so glad of the chance of escape to make any disturbance, and all three hurried out of the house together; but, on turning into a neighbouring street, encountered a policeman, to whom they related the way in which they had been robbed, and, the officer having gone back with them to the house, took into custody both prisoners, whom witness at once pointed out to him. The other boys made a similar statement, and their evidence was confirmed by the policeman. The magistrate committed

the woman Willis, but discharged Shannon, who appeared to have taken no active part in the assault on the boys.

The Rev. Francis Darry, a Roman Catholic priest, has been brought before a bench of Hampshire Magistrates at Cowes, charged with a brutal *Assault on a Child Five Years Old*. The little girl, who gave her evidence with remarkable clearness and ingenuousness, stated that she was sitting on a bank when the rev. gentleman passed by her, accompanied by a little boy, and that, after having proceeded a few yards, he returned, and having knocked off her bonnet, he seized her by her hair, and beat her with great violence about her head and face. Several witnesses who were in the neighbourhood, and saw the outrage perpetrated, spoke of the brutality with which the rev. defendant treated the child. Several questions were put to the witnesses by the priest, but he failed to shake their testimony, while, with respect to many of the questions put to the child herself, the magistrates decided that they were of a highly improper character, and refused to allow her to answer them. In answer to the charge the priest said that whenever he walked about, the boys and girls of the neighbourhood made fun of him, and he adopted that course of punishment in order that it might act as an example and make the children behave better in future. The bench commented with severity upon the conduct of the priest, and fined him 12s. 6d., and 7s. 6d. for costs. The fine was immediately paid, and the priest left the court under a volley of hisses and groans.

A young girl named Sarah Watts has been *Murdered* at Frome. On the 25th ult. she was left by her parents in charge of their cottage. In the course of that day her body was found, and it appeared at the inquest held on it that she had been violated and strangled. A verdict was returned that she had been murdered by some person or persons unknown.

At the Marylebone police court, on the 30th ult., a woman named Davis was charged with *Burning her Female Child with a red-hot Poker*. As soon as the charge was read to the prisoner she exclaimed, "I did it in the height of passion." The child deposed that she was eight years of age. Eight days before her sister had given her some cocoa to drink, and because she took it at her bidding her mother burnt her on the lower part of her back with a red-hot poker. Afterwards she made her put off all her clothing, and when she was thus naked beat her with a cane and pinched her. This was at six o'clock in the evening; at seven she tied witness to the bed-post with a rope passed round her waist. When witness's father, with whom the prisoner lives unmarried, came home, the rope was loosed and afterwards tied, so that witness had to lie on the floor under the bed all night. In the first case her legs and hands were tied together, in the second her legs only. She remained tied up all the next day, being supplied with milk and water and dry bread, and was finally set at liberty on the third day, by the mother, when she fled to Kew to some people who had formerly shown her kindness. This evidence was confirmed, and on a subsequent examination the unnatural mother was committed for trial.

At the Guildhall police office, on the 1st inst., Mr. J. E. Evans, a bookseller and stationer of Snow Hill, was fined 5l. for *Sending a parcel containing two boxes of Lucifer Matches* by the Great Western Railway. The presence of the combustibles in the luggage train was only ascertained by one of the men perceiving a little smoke issuing from one of the carriages, and on opening it and removing a great number of packages, the parcel in question was drawn forth, and the matches found to have ignited.

An extraordinary *Murder* has been perpetrated at a lone cottage in the parish of Gayton-le-Marsh in Lincolnshire. On the 3rd inst., a man who was passing some distance from the cottage, heard a gun discharged; and presently Baker, the cottager, ran bleeding from his house, and exclaimed that his wife had been killed and himself wounded by a gun, through the window. The woman was indeed dead; but on a surgeon examining Bakers head no shots could be found in the wounds. The Baker's had not been on very good terms together, and latterly the husband had with difficulty induced his

wife to mortgage the cottage, her property, to get money to emigrate. Baker was arrested. But subsequent inquiries showed that there were not sufficient grounds for this proceeding. A surgeon "did" find a shot in the man's head, on the top of it; there were foot-marks in the garden, marks where a man had knelt under the window, and shots in the window frame; and the marks were in a direction corresponding with Baker's statement of the position of his wife and himself when shot. Several shots were taken from the deceased's neck, and a bit of glass was found in her dress. In the house was a loaded gun: it had not recently been discharged; the cap had rusted on the nipple. In consequence of these facts, Baker was immediately discharged by the magistrates.

W. T. Chipchase, a porter at one of the City taverns, was summoned before the Lord Mayor, on the 30th ult., for having *illegally detained the Watch of Emma Pack*. The complainant, a young countrywoman, said the defendant had, whilst paying very great, and, as she supposed, serious attention to her, taken possession of a silver watch which she had for some years. The acquaintance between them, however, gradually became weaker, and at last was broken off; but the defendant forgot to return the watch when they were about to separate, and as he had given no equivalent during the whole period of the courtship, the complainant thought the only course she could take was to apply for restitution through the Lord Mayor. The Lord Mayor: Had he been paying his addresses to you? Complainant: Yes, my lord; for some time. The Lord Mayor: And why have you come to the determination to part? Complainant: I want to know from him the cause of his conduct. I am not to blame. The defendant: My lord, she has got presents that I made her, and I think she ought to return them to me before I return her the watch. Complainant: I never made him a present of the watch. It's not likely I'd give him a thing of such value when all he gave to me as presents, as he calls them, were a horn comb, a pair of odd gloves, and an old Testament. Defendant: I gave you other presents besides. You know I gave you a nutmeg grater, a yard of grand Exhibition ribbon, a whalebone toothpick, and a pair of socks that I bought at a baby-jumper's. The Lord Mayor: Well, I dare say she will readily give back these valuable memorials. I think she ought to do so in commemoration of the loss of such a lover. Complainant: Yes, my lord, he shall have them all back. I assure your lordship that I never gave him the watch—he took it off the table without my permission. If I had given it to him, I never would have asked him for it again. The Lord Mayor: Where is the watch? Defendant: I have it here my lord, (pulling it out of his fob). The Lord Mayor: (Handing the watch to the young woman)—Very well. Take this with you into the country, and tell your friends that you have lost your lover and recovered your watch; and that you have reason to be thankful on both accounts. The girl made her curtsy, and the swain sneaked away amid the laughter of everybody in the justice-room.

A grocer named Faucett, residing in Wyndham Road, Camberwell, has *Murdered two of his Children and Committed Suicide*. On the morning of the 30th ult., the shop was opened at the usual hour, and his wife, after she had given her children their breakfast, went out for a short time. After a quarter of an hour's absence she returned home, and was surprised to find the shop door fastened on the inside, and being unable to obtain admittance by that entrance, she proceeded to the private door. On knocking, the door, after a short lapse of time, was opened by the eldest child, (a girl about nine years of age), from whose throat blood was at the time copiously streaming from two frightful gashes. Upon rushing into the house, she discovered her youngest child, a boy, aged one year and nine months, lying on a bed in the back room of the first floor, with his head nearly severed from his body, and of course quite dead. She then went into the back parlour, and discovered another of her children, a girl, between four and five years of age, also lying dead, a deep wound having been inflicted in her neck, completely dividing the main arteries. Several persons having now arrived on the alarm given by Mrs. Faucett,

they proceeded into the back kitchen, where the murderer was seen leaning over the sink, and on approaching to apprehend him, it was found he had inflicted upon himself a wound in the throat, from five to six inches in length. He was immediately conveyed into the back garden, and laid upon the ground, but before surgical aid could be procured, he had expired. The weapons used by the unfortunate man were a carving knife, a knife used in his business, and an ordinary table knife. The eldest girl still survives, and is recovering. An inquest has been held upon the bodies of the father and the two children. Among other witnesses, the widowed mother and surviving child were examined, and it was proved that the unfortunate man had long been in an unsound state of mind, and had previously attempted suicide. He had lately acquired intemperate habits, and, before the commission of the crime, had shown much despondency on account of the state of his business. The jury returned a verdict of "temporary insanity." His poor widow has since died.

Mr. Ingle Rudge, a stock-broker, committed *Suicide*, on the 30th ult. Mr. Rudge was in the habit of transacting his business at the counting-house of Mr. Routh; also a member of the Stock Exchange; and on that gentleman learning, on coming to his business on Tuesday morning, that Mr. Rudge had been in the private room about a quarter of an hour, he went thither, and found him lying on the floor of the water-closet quite dead. A wine glass was found on the table containing the remains of prussic acid. A brief examination of the body sufficed to show that the deceased had perished from the effects of that poison. On his person was found a loaded pistol and a knife. Some letters also were discovered, one of which was nearly to the following effect, dated Sept. 29, 1851, addressed to a friend:—"Dear Sir.—When you have received this I shall have ceased to live. I have never done any good to myself or any one else about me. I knew this must come a long while. I hope some one will take pity on my poor wife and children: do what you can for those helpless creatures. I dare not think of their unhappy condition. I have had the means of death in my possession now more than two weeks." The deceased had for some time been in a desponding state, and the day in question being a settling day, he had been unable to meet some demands upon him. An inquest being held on his body, the jury found a verdict of "temporary insanity." The members of the Stock Exchange have subscribed nearly 1000*l.* for Mr. Rudge's widow and family.

An Inquest was held at Bristol on the 29th ult., on the body of Mr. Baker, a tradesman, who, a few days before, committed *Suicide* by blowing out his brains with a gun, to the trigger of which he had attached a string. It appeared that the unfortunate man took to heart the departure of two sons, his only children, to New York, and became so depressed in spirits, that the apprehensions of his friends were excited. The jury returned a verdict of "temporary insanity."

On Sunday evening the 28th ult., as Mr. Joel Slater, butcher, of Lower Belgrave-place, Finsbury, was returning home from Richmond, in a light spring-cart, accompanied by his housekeeper, when passing Kew-bridge, one of the Brentford omnibuses which was coming along at a smart pace, caught the wheel of the cart before Mr. Slater could pull on one side, and overturning the vehicle, precipitated both him and his housekeeper a considerable distance into the road. On being picked up, it was found that Mr. Slater's neck was dislocated, and he expired shortly afterwards. The housekeeper sustained a compound fracture of the leg.

Certain proceedings in the *Liverpool County Court* have excited much attention. Mr. Ramshay was lately appointed judge of that court, by the Earl of Carlisle, as Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancashire; and, in consequence of complaints made by practitioners before the court, an enquiry into Mr. Ramshay's judicial conduct was made by the earl, who did not find reason for depriving Mr. Ramshay of his office. This decision Mr. Ramshay celebrated by giving a dinner in his own court, as a "triumph over his enemies." Some severe comments had been made on his mode of administering justice, by the local press, and in particular, by the *Liverpool Journal*. A posting-bill or placard of that

paper, containing the headings of its various contents, had the following heading of a law-report; "Mr. Ramshay's opinion of the people of Liverpool." The report in the paper itself, was that of a case decided by Mr. Ramshay, in the course of which he said that the witnesses, "like many persons in this part of the country, appear to have not the slightest regard for the solemnity of an oath, and to be equally destitute of the feelings of humanity." Mr. Ramshay observing the placard posted up in the streets, resolved to proceed against Mr. Whitty, the proprietor of the journal, for contempt; and ordered his officers to bring Mr. Whitty before him forthwith. The bailiffs went, and intimated the desire of the judge for Mr. Whitty's attendance; but he refused to attend, and told the officers he should not obey them unless they showed some warrant or legal instrument. They returned and told this to the judge. Mr. Ramshay told them to go again with assistance and bring Mr. Whitty by force. They found Mr. Whitty, with several of his men beside him, and a force of police-constables, drawn up to see that all things should be done with legality. The bailiffs tried to take Mr. Whitty by force; but the printers defended him, though without violence; and when the police-constables were appealed to, they said, "We would assist you if you had a warrant, but if you have no warrant we cannot assist you." At last Mr. Whitty gave "the bailiffs" into custody, and they were taken to the police-station; the superintendent heard the charge, and the explanations of the bailiffs, who admitted they had no violence to complain of. When it was found that the bailiffs had been acting under Mr. Ramshay's orders, the case was dismissed, and the bailiffs returned to Mr. Ramshay to report their second repulse. This occurred on Saturday the 27th ult.: and Mr. Ramshay then formally summoned Mr. Whitty before him on the following Monday. Mr. Whitty appeared, with Sir George Stephen as his counsel; and, after some controversy, Mr. Ramshay fined Mr. Whitty 5*l.*, with the alternative of seven days' imprisonment in Lancaster Castle.—Another charge was then brought against Mr. Whitty, arising out of the same transaction, namely, that of resisting the officers in the execution of their duty. It appeared from the evidence that Mr. Whitty, on being ordered to attend the court by the verbal summons of the officer, had refused to go, saying, however, he should be ready to attend if the officer would get a summons or a warrant; also, that upon being again urged by the officer, who had gone to get assistants, to go quietly, he had pulled out what the officer described as a large knife, about a foot long, but which according to the evidence of one witness was rounded at the point, and was designated by Sir G. Stephen as a paper-knife, and threatened to cut their souls out if they attempted to touch him. The bailiffs then stepped back, and a number of policemen who had come to the spot, on being asked to assist them, the superintendent said he could not, they (the bailiffs) having no warrant. A long cross-examination of the bailiff, who was the principal witness, took place, when he admitted he was not perfectly sober at the time he went to Mr. Whitty, and also that he had no warrant. In answer to Sir G. Stephen, as to who gave him the order to bring the defendant before the judge, the witness was pausing, when the learned judge said: "I did. I gave him the order. By the word 'bring' I meant to use force if necessary; and even if it required ten thousand men I should get them. I care for no man living who opposes me." Sir G. Stephen, after submitting that he had not the power to do so, declared that if any one had entered his house under similar circumstances he should have shot him. Here the whole court, which was crowded by a great number of respectable merchants, bankers, and traders, burst out into a loud shout of applause. Judge: "I will clear this court if I have any more of this. I will close the doors, and I will fine every man I have reason to suspect for giving such expression to his feelings. I have no doubt but that all the men belonging to this man's shop are here insulting me in my own court. If you bailiffs don't take one of these men who made this indecent expression—if you don't immediately I will fine you!" Bailiff: "Everybody in court cheered; they all cheered!" Judge: "Well, sir, if you don't bring one in—if you

don't bring one before me this instant, I will fine you!" Two persons in the crowd were seized by the collar, and dragged forward. They were each fined 5*l.* by the judge, or ordered to stand committed for seven days. Reference having been again made to the refusal of the policeman to assist the bailiffs without a warrant, the judge said the superintendent ought to have known that no warrant was necessary from the judge of a county court in arresting a person for contempt; but he cared not who the man was, be he peer or peasant, that obstructed or insulted any officer of the court, he would have him apprehended. Mr. Ramshay then proceeded to give judgment. "I tell this court," he said, "that that man (Mr. Whitty) has been found guilty before me of a crime against the act of parliament, and he must answer for it. He has publicly offended against the bailiffs of this court. What you are here now for (turning to Mr. Whitty), is one of the cases of offensive insolence which you have so repeatedly committed and carried on. I tell you, sir—for you are a man—and every man like you, that the law will be too strong for you, and you will find it out. I tell you, sir, that you look like a man in whose eyes, and in whose face, the worst passions and worst feelings of our human nature are delineated. You do not look like a man, but like a person who is, not at all sorry for what he has done. I tell you, sir, that I shall inflict upon you for this offence—for insulting the two bailiffs whom I sent to you, for that offence—for wilfully insulting a bailiff of this court of the name of Hartley—I will order you to be imprisoned in her Majesty's gaol at Lancaster for seven days; and for your offence of insulting another officer of this court, of the name of Cholmondeley, I shall order you to be further imprisoned in her Majesty's gaol of Lancaster for another seven days, to commence at the expiration of your former sentence." Loud murmurs arose during this address, and at its termination the judge violently threatened his officers with fine and imprisonment if they did not more effectually preserve order in the court. Mr. Whitty then left the court in custody, surrounded by a number of his friends. On making his appearance next day at the railway-station, in order to proceed to Lancaster Castle, a great concourse of persons had assembled to witness his departure, by whom he was warmly greeted with hearty cheers, shaking of hands, and every demonstration of sympathy.

On Tuesday the 30th Mr. John Whitty, Mr. Whitty's son, was charged with *Assaulting* the officers who were executing their duty by endeavouring to arrest his father on Saturday. The evidence was vague; but Mr. Ramshay held that it was sufficient. He imposed fines of 2*l.* for the insults to each bailiff; and further fines of 2*l.* more for the obstructions to each officer in the execution of his duty. Of the fines inflicted on the persons who had cheered in court, the first was persisted in, and the culprit was sent to Lancaster Castle in default of apology or payment. The second was remitted. A public meeting of Liverpool citizens was held on the 2nd inst. Mr. Samuel Holme was in the chair; and Mr. W. Browne, M.P., and Mr. Robertson Gladstone, moved resolutions. It was resolved to raise a subscription to pay Mr. Whitty's fines, and to defray the cost of "ulterior proceedings" for obtaining redress for the personal wrongs done to him. A deputation immediately went to the county court and paid the fines imposed on Mr. Whitty, with the costs, amounting to 38*l.*; and procured his discharge. In the afternoon of that day, he was brought back from Lancaster Castle in triumph: nearly four thousand persons formed themselves into an avenue on the immense platform of the railway station, to give him a hearty greeting. The Earl of Carlisle has intimated his intention of investigating the complaints which have been made of Mr. Ramshay's conduct as a judge.

Another tragedy of a similar kind to that at Camberwell has taken place at Bermondsey. In the afternoon of Friday the 10th, Mary Anna Newman, a young married woman, *Cut the Throat of her Little Daughter*, six years of age, and then *Destroyed Herself*. The child ran down stairs with its throat bleeding, exclaiming, "Mother has done it!" surgical aid was obtained, but the poor child soon died. Lodgers in the house

went to the woman's room; where she was found on the floor, dead, with a frightful gash in her throat, and a bloody razor lying near. It appeared at the inquest, that the woman had been ill from fever, and the disease had affected her mind. Her husband believed her to be "partly insane," though he had not expected her to do any "rash act." The husband is an industrious man; the couple were much attached to each other; and the mother was fond of her child. The evidence proved clearly that she had killed herself and child, and that she was not in a responsible state at the time. The coroner stated, that no matter in what state of mind a party may be, if he or she kill another, it is by law an act of homicide or murder; and the coroner's court has no power of discharging the party, no matter how insane he might be, although superior courts may do so. The jury returned the following verdict:—"That the deceased, Harriet Newman, was in law wilfully murdered by her mother, Mary Anna Newman; and that the said Mary Anna Newman committed suicide, being at the time in an unsound state of mind."

On the 4th inst., William Harmer a painter of Walworth, *Shot Himself with a Pistol*, in Cold Harbour Lane, Camberwell, inflicting a wound in his mouth; and then ran with great speed towards Dulwich, and the Forest Hill station. He was pursued, but distanced those who followed him; at last, approaching the Forest Hill station, he ran up an embankment on to the line, put himself before an approaching train, and was killed on the spot. He has left a widow and three children. At the inquest, it appeared that he was in utter poverty, and that this had unhinged his mind. The distance he ran after shooting himself was nearly three miles. The jury could not pronounce whether he was killed on the railway by "accident, or by his own wilful act."

At the meeting of the Surrey Magistrates in Quarter-Sessions, on the 14th, the Visiting Committee of Justices of the Guildford House of Correction recommended the *Dismissal of The Rev. Mr. Richards, the Chaplain of the Prison*, on account of his behaviour to a prisoner. It appeared that William Augustus Sheen, a prisoner, about to be liberated, had stated, that last year the chaplain offered to bring anything he wished from London; Sheen requested him to bring a shawl and other articles; subsequently, Mr. Richards said he had lost them, having "drank too much French wine in London." Sheen further said that the chaplain had questioned him in an indelicate manner with reference to the conduct of ladies in France in the confessional. When Mr. Richards was examined by the committee, he denied having stated that he had drunk too much French wine, but admitted that the remainder of the conversation occurred, but with the qualification that he only spoke of "certain" French ladies acting in the manner described. Mr. Richards addressed the magistrates in person. He admitted the conversation; explained that it arose out of a desire to illustrate his assertion that the state of morals in France is not better than in our country; and he avowed that he had been entrapped by Sheen—"a concealed Roman Catholic, or something worse." On Mr. Richards's own admissions, the magistrates passed a motion to dismiss the chaplain from his office.

Mrs. Pinckard, an elderly woman, has been found dead in her cottage near Daventry, under circumstances that have led to a suspicion of *Murder*. The body was in a sitting posture on the floor, with a thin tape round the neck and fastened to a little brass hook in the wall. The position did not appear to be that of a suicide. On closer examination, it was discovered that the deceased had an extensive wound on the temple, and there were bruises on her arms; there was blood on the floor and on a wall. The deceased was not a person likely to destroy herself: she enjoyed good health and spirits, lived happily with her husband, and had a small income of her own. Her husband was absent on the day of the death; the only person who was seen to enter the house was the wife of Mrs. Pinckard's son. This woman often quarrelled with her mother-in-law; her husband was in pecuniary difficulties; on the death of his mother he would become entitled to 1000*l*. The daughter-in-law has been taken into custody.

Messrs. Hoare, bankers, of Fleet Street, have found that a *Robbery* to a considerable extent has for some time been committed upon them by a confidential clerk, who, from speculating on the Stock Exchange, had incurred considerable losses, and in an evil hour had been induced to alter the figures in the bank books, whereby a defalcation to the extent, we believe, of upwards of 10,000*l*. has occurred. The person has been in the service of the Messrs. Hoare upwards of twenty years.

Mr. R. Ellison, solicitor, living at Tickhill, Yorkshire, committed *Suicide* on Sunday, the 12th inst., by cutting his throat. He had previously been labouring under much depression of mind, and it was deemed necessary to place a strict watch on his movements, as it was apprehended that he would make an attempt on his life. On Sunday morning he rose in apparently better spirits, and walked in the garden, accompanied as usual by his attendants. After taking exercise for some time, he contrived to elude his watchers' vigilance, and returned to the house unnoticed and alone. His absence was detected almost immediately, and an alarm was raised, which led to the discovery of his body on the dining-room floor, quite dead.

At the Middlesex Sessions, on the 15th, Thomas Strinson was indicted for having unlawfully sold *Indecent and Obscene Prints*. He resided in Minerva Street, Hackney Road, where ostensibly he carried on the business of a surgical bandage maker. From information received by the Society for the Suppression of Vice, they directed one of their officers to go to his house, which he did, and after some conversation relative to surgical bandages, the officer introduced the subject of the prints which the defendant was in the habit of selling, and he sold him a pack of cards upon which were certain representations which formed the matter of this prosecution. Strinson was afterwards apprehended, and a quantity of filth of the same kind was found in his house. The jury returned a verdict of "guilty." The prisoner's counsel then appealed to the court for mercy, urging that he had never before been known as a dealer in such disgusting matters, and that he had endeavoured, but unsuccessfully, to bring to justice the parties by whom he had been supplied. It was stated for the prosecutor that the prisoner had been in the habit of selling cards and prints of this description at chemists' and druggists' shops, and the Society for the Suppression of Vice had received information that at such shops articles of that description were now to be obtained; so many of the parties who kept shops exclusively for the sale of such things having been prosecuted and visited with the severity of the law. The judge said chemists' shops were the places where poisons were sold; but it appeared that they were selling poisons for the mind as well as the body. The present was not a case in which the court felt it was necessary to inflict the punishment awarded to those who recently had been convicted of this offence, and the sentence upon the defendant was that he be imprisoned and kept to hard labour for six calendar months.

A shocking case of *Infanticide* has occurred at Bath. Elizabeth Slater was charged, on the 10th, at the Sessions, with attempting to poison her infant child: but the child having died on the following day, the subsequent proceedings took place before the coroner. The prisoner's real name, it appeared, is Elizabeth Lewis, and it is said that she, with her mother, has hitherto kept a respectable seminary near Bristol. Some time ago, she went to Bath and took lodgings at the house of a chemist named Searle. She took them for six weeks, subject to the approval of her husband, representing herself to be a married woman; and on the Monday following, she went to the house, accompanied by Mr. Crosby, a solicitor of Bristol, of good practice, who represented himself to be her husband. The following day she was confined of a female child, which was dry-nursed, and at the end of the month the prisoner left, leaving the infant in charge of Mrs. Searle, and agreeing to pay for its keep. About a fortnight afterwards, and on various occasions, the child was visited by the prisoner, who was frequently accompanied by Mr. Crosby, and on every occasion but one, after they left, the child became very ill, being seized with sickness, diarrhoea, and other symptoms of poisoning by arsenic.

This, at length, excited suspicion, and information was given to the police, who caused the prisoner to be taken into custody. In the course of the inquest, the various visits of Mr. and Mrs. Slater were deposed to, as well as the results which had usually followed. On the first occasion, when they both went together, they desired the baby to be sent up to them, which was done. Mrs. Searle, the lodging-house keeper, went up afterwards, and heard the prisoner say to Mr. Slater, who was near her, "Shall I, or will you?" Mr. Slater said, "I don't care which." After they left, the child was very sick and had diarrhœa; it shrieked and kicked about very much. Similar symptoms followed the various visits. On one occasion when the prisoner called, and Mrs. Searle left the baby with her for a few minutes, on her return the baby was on the sofa, putting out its tongue and licking its lips; the eyes were closed. It vomited shortly afterwards. Mrs. Searle went to get a cloth to wipe it, but the prisoner said "never mind," and wiped the vomit up herself with her pocket-handkerchief. Mr. Herapath, the chemist, deposed to the result of his analysis of the contents of the stomach, which was to the effect that the liver and intestines contained in them small but undoubted traces of arsenic; he had no doubt that death was caused by arsenic; and, from the eruptions, supposed that death was a slow one, from the poison having been administered in small quantities. Mr. Lawrence, a surgeon, described the child's condition, down to the time of its death, and gave it as his opinion that the death was produced by arsenic. He added that in his opinion the poisoning by arsenic, in small quantities, had been going on for some weeks.—Inspector Norris, of the Bath police, deposed, that on the 7th of October, he went to Mr. Searle's house; the prisoner came there about two and a-half hours after his arrival. As soon as he heard that she had arrived, he sent to the station-house for the female searchers. He then went to the prisoner, and said he must take her into custody on suspicion of having administered something to her baby. She inquired who gave him that information? She said she had done nothing, and wished him to wait for the arrival of Mr. Slater, whom she then expected by the 3 o'clock train. Mr. Slater proved to be Mr. Crosby, solicitor, of St. John's-bridge, Bristol. During the proceedings before the coroner, Mr. Crosby attended, and took notes. On the last day he was sworn as a witness, and his examination commenced, but the jury objected to the examination, and it was not proceeded with. The jury returned the following verdict:—"We find that the child died from the effects of poison by arsenic, administered by the mother, and we also find that the father was an accessory to the act." The coroner informed them that they must name the parties; and they then found a verdict of wilful murder against Catherine Elizabeth Lewis and Thomas Crosby. Mr. Crosby was consequently taken into custody, and both were committed for trial.

A lad named Charles Wilding was brought before Mr. Yardley, at the Thames police court, on the 18th, on remand, charged with *Furiously Driving* a horse and cart, and running over a little boy named John Santry. On the 9th inst. the prisoner, who was in the service of Mr. Lee, a master butcher in Leadenhall-market, was driving his horse and cart along High-street, Shadwell—a very crowded thoroughfare—at a furious pace. The boy Santry, who was standing opposite a grocer's shop with an announcement board, was knocked down, his collar-bone was fractured, and he sustained other and most serious injuries. He was removed to the London Hospital, and was not restored to consciousness till the following day. He came into court in a very weakly condition, and will probably be affected by the accident for the remainder of his life. The prisoner, in defence, said the horse was a young one, and very spirited. It went very freely, and completely overpowered him. He was unable to stop the animal, which, he supposed, was frightened by the glare of the gas-lights. This statement was confirmed by a policeman. The prisoner added he had been in prison eight days. He had not a friend in the world, and his master had never made the least inquiry about him. The magistrate expressed his surprise at this statement. He never meant the prisoner

to be in gaol at all. He had expressed his intention of taking one bail for him, and thought his master would have been his security. The gaoler said there were three other persons in the cart when the accident happened, and not one of them came near the prisoner, who was kept in the cell till the very last moment, to give his master an opportunity of bailing him. Mr. Yardley said that Mr. Lee ought to be ashamed of himself. He had intrusted his lad with a young, free-going horse, which he was unable to control, and when he met with an accident had left him to his fate and made no inquiry about him. He asked if Mr. Lee had been the poor boy who was injured any compensation? The mother of the boy replied in the negative, and said she was a poor widow with five children, and one of them, a baby in arms, had died since the accident to her son, in consequence of the fright affecting her milk. Mr. Yardley said the only course left open to the poor woman was to bring an action against Mr. Lee, of Leadenhall-market. He directed a police-officer to wait on Mr. Lee, and state his (the magistrate's) opinion that he ought to compensate the mother of the injured boy, and do something for his servant, who had been in gaol eight days through his master's neglect. He then discharged the prisoner, and gave the poor widow 5s. from the poor-box towards paying the expenses of hurrying her child.

Another dreadful case of *Child-murder* has been discovered at Wakefield. About 5 o'clock on the morning of the 20th inst. one of the porters, named Jackson, employed at the railway station of the Lancashire and Yorkshire Company, went to his work as usual, for the purpose of seeing the government train despatched to Manchester. A young man named Park, employed as a clerk in the telegraph office, was also in attendance, and booked four persons to go by the train, two men and two females. On the departure of the train, Jackson, as was his usual custom, went into the passage leading from the railway yard on to the platform, where passengers were booked to go by the trains, and proceeded to extinguish the gas-lights. The passage at this time was perfectly clear; but when he returned, after an absence of a few minutes, he found a common blue band-box, rather clumsily tied with cord, lying in the passage. He took up the box and carried it into the booking-office to show it to the other clerk, and their curiosity or suspicion being aroused by the weight and appearance of the band-box, they opened it, when they found it contained a child, wrapped up in a white cloth, with its throat cut from ear to ear, the head being almost severed from the body. It appears from the statement of the booking clerk that about ten minutes after the departure of the train a man and woman came to the booking-office window, and requested to know if the train had gone to Thornhill. On learning that it had, and that there was no other train until half-past eleven, they went away, and he saw nothing more of them until they were afterwards taken into custody, when he positively identified the woman as the person who made inquiries respecting the trains at the booking-office window. The man and woman were also identified by a porter, who met them in the railway yard, on their way from the station, as he was going on duty, about twenty minutes before six o'clock. The man and woman, whose names are James Doyle and Ann Smith, were taken into custody about 7 o'clock the same morning. They were brought before the magistrates at the Court-house, and remanded for a week, to give the police an opportunity of obtaining further evidence.

At the Surrey Sessions, on the 20th, two young men, named Collier and Tovey, were indicted for *Attempting to Break into the House* of Sarah Willis, at Chertsey. Mrs. Willis, an old lady of seventy-two, stated that she lived alone in a cottage, near the Addlestone railway station. She was in receipt of an annuity, but as soon as she received it from the Bank of England she placed the money in a lady's hand for safety. On Saturday night, the 20th of September, she went to bed about nine o'clock, and about three hours afterwards she was alarmed by hearing some glass break in her windows. She had fastened the house up prior to retiring to rest. As soon as she heard the noise she got out of bed and struck a light, and went to the windows. She there

saw some faces, when she thought it was some one come to frighten her. One of the men, who she believed to be Collier, called out, "Give us some money, or it will be the worse for you." It was at the little window at the back of the house. She told them to go about their business, but they refused to do so, and commenced forcing the door open. She put a piece of iron against the door to prevent them from breaking it open. She then saw that part of the shutter had been cut through with a knife, the blade of which she perceived through the shutter. She was very much afraid of that, but she seized up a candlestick and pushed against the knife, to prevent the blade coming any further. With one hand she held the candlestick, and the other the shutter. She told them to remember the Frimley murder, and go about their business. They again demanded a sovereign, a half-sovereign, or a half-crown, when she told them she had none. But she recollected afterwards that she had a shilling, and offered to give them that if they would go away. She then told them to go round, and when they got there she threw out the shilling and some bread and cheese. She was afraid her strength would fail her, which induced her to give them the shilling. She was positive she knew Collier, as he lived with his parents in the next cottage to her. She said to him, "You bad boy, Tom, go away;" but both of them said, "No, we sha'n't; we will have more." She then got an old dagger, but she was afraid to handle such a deadly weapon, but still she threatened them with it, and they went away. An officer of the Surrey police said that he had watched the prisoners from a beer-house to the back of Mrs. Willis's house, and confirmed her account of what took place. He pursued the prisoners, and captured them. Another officer had examined the old lady's house afterwards, and found the back door broken very much, as if the thieves intended to force the lock back by wrenching off the bottom board. The shutters were also very much cut, and the marks corresponded with a knife found on Collier. The prisoners' counsel contended that their identity was not clearly proved, but the jury found that both were guilty. A former conviction having been proved against Tovey, the court sentenced him to ten years' transportation, and the other prisoner was sentenced to twelve months' hard labour in the House of Correction. The chairman told them that had it not been for the courageous conduct of the old lady, they would have entered her house, and might have succeeded in committing a crime similar to that in another part of the county, for which two men suffered so recently.

At the Middlesex Sessions on the 21st, John Whitman was indicted for *Obtaining Money on False Pretences*. The prisoner, on being called up, complained that an attorney had the whole of his papers and had failed to appear to defend him. He was anxious, therefore, to have his trial postponed, as the papers in question were of the utmost importance to enable him to conduct his defence. The judge said that he could not postpone the trial. The prisoner had been committed now for nearly three weeks, and had had plenty of time to get his papers out of the attorney's hands. There were persons who attended the Criminal Courts falsely representing themselves as attorneys, and thus defrauding the prisoners and their friends; and had he but the power he should not be slow to put it in operation to cleanse the court of them, for he would take care that they were safely lodged between four walls during every sitting of the court; but he had not the power, and could not do anything in the present case. If the person alluded to by the prisoner were an attorney on the roll he would have his remedy by an application to the Court of Queen's Bench. The trial then proceeded, and the case being clearly made out, the jury returned a verdict of guilty. The prisoner was sentenced to imprisonment with hard labour for six months.

Two medical students of University and Guy's Hospitals, were charged at Bow-street on the 22nd, with *Riotous Conduct in the Street*. The police officers who had taken them into custody said, that at half-past three in the morning, the defendants and two other gentlemen, not in custody, were on and in a cab in Southampton-street, Covent-garden, making a great

noise and disputing the fare with the driver, which fare they settled when the officers came up, but used towards them such coarse and insulting language, and were so riotous, that they were obliged to take them to the station-house. Another medical student came forward as witness for the defendants, and stated that about three o'clock in the morning they left the Casino, in Holborn, two of the party mounting the box of a cab, three going inside, and witness riding on the roof, having desired "cabbee" to drive them to the Cider Cellars. Witness was sober, although he had taken some wine; but the others were more or less excited from wine and dancing, and some of the party commenced humming tunes, chatting, laughing, and talking to the cabman loud enough to be heard, as witness believed, on the pavement. When in Southampton-street, two of the party ran away, and one of them being the gentleman who ordered the cab, the cabman called the police, when the fare was paid; but one of the defendants made use of language which the witness believed he would not have been guilty of if sober. The police then took him into custody, and on witness and another of the party going to the station-house the latter was also locked up as being drunk. Mr. Henry said that he could not permit persons to disturb the inhabitants of the metropolis in their beds at such unseasonable hours, and the defendants must each pay a fine of 2l., or each go to prison for a month.

A young woman, named Maria Stewart, who resided with her uncle, a person of great respectability, at Crawford, near Bury St. Edmund's, has been committed for trial for two distinct *Murders of her own Illegitimate Children*. Having been suspected of having given birth to a child, she was apprehended on a charge of concealing the birth. On her road to the station she confessed that the child was buried behind the lodge at her uncle's house. Search was made, and the body of a female child discovered. On being examined by a surgeon, he gave as his opinion that the child had not only been born alive, but that it had sucked. Whilst the prisoner was in the station-house she made a voluntary confession that she was delivered of the child on the 24th of September, that she murdered it on the following day, and kept it in her bed till the 6th inst., when she buried it at the lodge, and that she had murdered one child before. She then indicated the spot where she had disposed of the body, and, search being made, its remains were found.

Mr. James Beardsley, a highly respectable chemist in Nottingham, committed *Suicide* on the 14th inst. He left home in the morning for the purpose of going to his garden at Menton, and in the afternoon his wife and eldest daughter went to join him. Having arrived at the garden, near the summer-house they discovered him suspended from the roof. Every assistance was rendered, but life was extinct.

Charles Falkner, a marine-store dealer, with a shop in Eyre-street hill, and W. Thomas Jackson, also a marine-store dealer, in Clerkenwell, were indicted at the Middlesex Sessions, on the 23rd, charged with having *Stolen*, and also with having *Feloniously Received*, 40 pounds weight of tinfoil, of the value of 2l., the property of Messrs. Simpson and Emsley, of Gray's-inn-lane. The circumstances of this case are remarkable. It appeared from the evidence that on the 9th of June last two officers of the detective police, of the names of Fisher and Archer, were on duty in Gray's-inn-lane, when their attention was arrested by a cart which belonged to a man named Usher, a dealer and collector of old metal. A quantity of old lead and brass were apparently in the cart. They made a search, and discovered about 40 pounds of tinfoil in an unfinished state. Having some suspicion that all was not right, they took him into custody. On inquiry it was ascertained that the foil was the property of the prosecutors. Upon Usher being taken before the magistrate, he stated that he had purchased the foil from a person named Falkner, at his shop, in the regular way of business, and that the price he had paid for it had been 7½d. per pound, and then he called Falkner forward as a witness in support of this statement, but that person totally denied having had anything to do with the foil, and, therefore, that he had ever sold it to him. Usher asserted that he could

prove the fact by witnesses if the magistrate would adjourn the inquiry. A remand of the case was therefore accorded, Usher was liberated on bail, and Falkner ordered to be in attendance on the day appointed for the second hearing. Falkner, however, failed to appear. From that period, notwithstanding the officers, as well as Usher himself, were in search of him, he was not heard anything of until the 22nd of the month, when he was discovered living at Ivy Cottage, Camberwell, where it was said he was residing on account of his health. The police set a watch upon the movements of his wife, and on Saturday night, the 3rd of July, followed her in a chaise to the cottage at Camberwell. Having traced her to this cottage, the two officers entered it, and found Falkner, his wife and family, and a Jew, at supper. Falkner, on being told that he was to consider himself in custody, and that it was their intention to convey him to the station, requested that they would permit him to go there in his own chaise. This request the officers assented to, and as the one was conducting him out of the cottage by the front door Falkner managed to give him the slip; and then, when the other tried to intercept him, he was attacked by Mrs. Falkner and the Jew, whereupon Falkner effected his escape. Mrs. Falkner and the Jew were subsequently committed to Kingston gaol for this assault, the latter for a fortnight and the wife for a month. Falkner contrived to evade the vigilance of the police until the 15th of September, on which day he gave notice, through his attorney, that it was his intention to surrender and meet the charge. Before that act of surrender, however, had been accomplished, he was apprehended by a sergeant of police when walking in Holborn. When he was brought before the magistrate, he stated that he had purchased the foil in question of a person of the name of Jackson, and that he had paid as much as 6½d. a pound for it. He then called upon Jackson to corroborate his statement. That person refused to do anything of the sort, or even to be sworn; but a man of the name of Bright having been then called up, he declared that he had been a witness to the sale of the foil by Jackson, and to the purchase of it by Falkner. This witness added, that this transaction had taken place in the open shop of Falkner, whither the foil had been taken by Jackson. With reference to Jackson, the chief points against him were, his having stated that he knew the person from whom he had received the foil, and that it could not be identified, as the goods were in an unfinished state; and then the fact of his having refused to give up the name of that individual. The stolen property was unquestionably identified as belonging to the prosecutors, and it was proved that its value in its present unfinished state was not less than 1s. 1d. per lb. Falkner's counsel admitted that his client had been guilty of egregious folly in telling a wilful untruth, by at first denying that he had sold the foil to Usher, and then in keeping out of the way; but he submitted that his conduct subsequently was an ample atonement for those acts of foolishness. At the time that Falkner had effected his escape from the officers he had been for some period in very ill health, and therefore it was by no means improbable that his subsequent concealment had been the result of fear and timidity. When that feeling, however, had subsided, the prisoner had come forward like an honest man to meet the charge, and had not more fully challenged Jackson to tell the truth, but had brought forward evidence to corroborate his own statement upon the subject. The jury acquitted both prisoners of the charge of theft, but found Jackson guilty of receiving the foil, knowing it to have been stolen. The judge said the case ought to be a warning not to purchase unfinished goods. With regard to Jackson, he said that the court would, in all cases where receivers were convicted, visit them with transportation, for the receivers were the great abettors of crime and produced more than one-half of the thefts which were committed. The sentence on the prisoner was, transportation for ten years.

At the Middlesex Sessions, on the 27th, Charles Moss was indicted for having *Stolen* articles, value 8*l.*, the *Property of the Great Western Railway Company*. It appeared that a Mrs. Francis arrived at the Paddington terminus of the Great Western Railway by the half-past

8 train on the evening of the 27th of September, and the prisoner's wife and children arrived also by the same train. The prisoner was in attendance with a horse and cart, to convey his family home, and having placed in the cart some luggage they had brought with them, he went to the barrier where the passenger's luggage was placed, and took therefrom a large bundle containing a quantity of bedding, as set forth in the indictment, and went away with it. In consequence of information received, an officer in the company's service went in search of the prisoner, and on making a search at his lodgings, he found the bedding, which was identified as that taken from the barrier and belonging to Mrs. Francis. The prisoner said he took the bundle in mistake for one his wife had brought with her; but the evidence of two of the railway porters showed that no similar articles were left at the station; and the various statements made by the prisoner relative to it were not true. The defence was that the prisoner took the property without any felonious intent, but purely in mistake, believing that it had been brought by his wife. The learned judge in his summing up of the case remarked that the company would not allow passengers to take care of their own luggage; they pretended to take care of it for them; but they did not provide a sufficient number of officers to ensure its safety. Passengers were, of all others, the persons most likely to take care of their luggage, but if the company was determined that they should not, they might at least take the best means of taking care of it themselves. The railway companies on the continent were amongst those who did not think that passengers ought to be entrusted with their own property, but it was well taken care of; and so certain was luggage on those railways of reaching its destination, that he thought the next time he travelled on the continent, he should have himself made up into a parcel and directed to the place he wished to reach, because it would then, with their arrangements, be next to impossible for him to get any where but to the right place. (A laugh.) The Great Western's arrangements for passengers' luggage were very ineffective, and required alteration and amendment. He then recapitulated the evidence, and left the jury to say whether the evidence satisfied them that the prisoner took the articles in mistake, or that at the time he took the bundle he had a felonious intent. The foreman of the jury said they had great doubt in the matter, and gave the prisoner the benefit of it, by finding him not guilty.

NARRATIVE OF ACCIDENT AND DISASTER.

A GRAVE-DIGGER named Smith, met his death at Edinburgh on the 25th of September, by being *Buried Alive*. He had left his house to dig a grave in a neighbouring church-yard; but, as he did not return, his wife became alarmed, and, having obtained the company of the beadle of the church, proceeded to the place of interment, where, after a search, they were horrified at discovering a hand projecting from a mass of earth which had fallen into the grave where the poor man had been at work. Assistance was immediately procured, and the body of the unfortunate gravedigger exhumed from the receptacle which he had excavated. The body was still warm, but, though attempts were made to restore animation, they proved fruitless, life being quite extinct.

The ship "*Hindostan*," of Whitby, a fine vessel of 554 tons burden, has been *Wrecked* on her passage from Portsmouth across the Atlantic. She encountered a heavy gale on the 25th of August, which continued with great force for several days. On the 27th, the crew discovered she had sprung an extensive leak, which soon rendered her completely unmanageable; this was in lat. 45-47, long. 54-36, the water increasing fast, and the ship settling down by the head. The launch having been got out, only six men and the mate could be prevailed upon to get into her, the others, to the number of nine, remaining on board, and while the boat was following in the vessel's wake, the main-mast suddenly fell, when the ship lurched and went to the bottom.

The following day the men in the boat were picked up by a schooner.

Mr. Frederick Robert Bolton, a Custom-house officer, whose duty it was to "test" imported spirits, &c., has been *Poisoned* by tasting tincture of aconite. A case of medicated spirits was received from Scotland; one bottle was wrapped in paper, with no label or writing on this covering. Mr. Bennett, a gauger, poured a small quantity into a glass, dipped a pen-holder into it, and drew it across his lips. Mr. Bolton was sitting by, and Bennett asked his opinion about the stuff. Mr. Bolton took the bottle into his hand, said he believed it was a "bitter," and returned it to Bennett. Bolton must have tasted the liquid from the glass or the bottle. A superior officer tore the paper from the bottle, and then a label was visible—"Fleming's tincture of aconite: poison." Mr. Bolton said, he did not believe that he had swallowed any of the poison, and it does not appear to have taken any effect on him while at the office; Mr. Bennett went to a chemist's and got some medicine, but had a burning sensation in his throat all the evening. During the evening Mr. Bolton was conveyed to a surgeon's by two persons; he was much exhausted, but perfectly sensible. He said he believed that he had swallowed a teaspoonful of the tincture—enough to kill five persons. The surgeon saw that the case was hopeless, but gave what medicines might afford relief; the unfortunate officer soon expired. At the inquest, Mr. Brain, the chief in the deceased's department, stated that Mr. Bolton and Mr. Bennett had not been long employed in that department, and were not well acquainted with the various compounds; the unfortunate accident arose from the outer covering not having been removed. The jury gave a verdict that the death was accidental; but suggested to the Commissioners of Inland Revenue, "that when any article of a poisonous character is imported, the permit should bear the word 'poison,' as well as the nature of the article itself."

The accounts from the Ionian Islands mention a *Shocking Accident* which has occurred at Zante. A house having caught fire, the Major of the 41st Regiment turned out with a party of soldiers to assist, when an explosion of two barrels of gunpowder kept in the premises took place, by which eleven men were killed on the spot, and many more, among them the Major himself, and no less than 150 of the inhabitants, were grievously wounded.

Another dreadful *Coal-pit Accident* has occurred by the breaking of a rope, whereby three lives have been sacrificed. It happened on the 1st inst., at Welton old coal-pit, near Midsummer Norton, Somerset. The men were being let down into the pit by hooks attached to the rope, and when they had reached to within 150 feet of the bottom, the rope parted, and they were dashed to pieces. One of the sufferers has left a widow and a child.

A *Whirlwind* passed through part of the city of Limerick on the afternoon of Sunday, the 5th inst. The course it followed was narrow in width, but its violence was extraordinary. Trees were torn up, whirled through the air, and deposited at some distance; planks and timber whistled through the air; shop-fronts and windows of houses were blown in, the fragments of the windows being lost from their minuteness. Several persons were hurt. Some were cut by fragments of glass; and Lord George Quin, while sitting in his hotel, was wounded in the thigh by a slate which was dashed through the window. Two men were lifted thirty feet into the air; and one of them, Thomas Ryan, was dashed against a wall with such force that he received a concussion of the brain, his arm was fractured, and several ribs were broken; he has expired in the hospital; while the other sufferer is in a precarious state. Three persons are missing; two of them were milkwomen, who are supposed to have been blown into the water. A man relates that he was carried by the wind across the river at a point where it is a quarter of a mile broad, and deposited on the other side unhurt. Large planks were blown to a distance of half a mile. When the whirlwind struck the water, it is said to have raised it fifty yards. The phenomenon appears to have been quite unparalleled in the locality, and excited some superstitious feelings among the people.

Mr. Mackenzie, a farmer of Fodderty, in Strathpeffer, has been *Killed by a Bull*, which assailed him on his letting it out of a shed. Mrs. Mackenzie missed her husband for a long time, and went in search of him; she found him yet alive, but he died the following day.

Thomas Gowland, a guard on the York and North Midland Railway, was *Killed* on the 3rd inst. near the Burton Salmon Station. He was the guard of a coke train which was on its way from York, when it was overtaken by a short goods train from Milford Junction. The driver and guard of the latter train were aware of its proximity to the coke train, and both trains were nearly at a standstill, when the goods train went slowly up to the other, with the intention of assisting to give it a start from the station. The coke train being, however, the more heavily laden of the two, and all the buffers being closed up, the engine of the goods train ran into the last carriage of the coke train, and caused it to bounce up, forcing it into the guard's van. Gowland fell out of the van with his face downwards across the rails. He was conveyed to the station, and medical assistance was procured, but he died about two hours after the accident, one of his arms and his body having been dreadfully crushed. The jury returned a verdict of "accidental death," but blamed the driver of the engine of the second train for not sounding his whistle on approaching the coke train.

A fine boy, son of Mr. Benedict, the eminent composer, was *Killed* on the 4th inst. on board a steam-boat on the Rhone. Passing under a bridge, the crew neglected to lower the chimney, which struck the arch, and fell among a number of the passengers, striking the unfortunate boy. He was landed at Avignon, but died the same evening.

At Kiveton Park station, near Sheffield, on the 8th inst., a boy about fourteen years of age lost his life in a *Frightful Manner*. He was playing with two other boys on the line, where there is a curve. A great Northern train, travelling at great velocity, was passing along the curve, and got within about a hundred and fifty yards before the boy was aware of it. In a moment he became quite paralysed, and fixing a fascinated stare upon the horrifying engine, there he stood till he was caught up and almost dashed to pieces against a heavy gate-post.

On the 8th inst. a man named Buffen was cleaning the second-floor window of a house in Torrington square, when the iron rail in front of the window gave way, and he fell backward on to the balcony railings of the first-floor, breaking them to atoms. From there he fell on to the railing in front of the house, which, breaking short off, threw him with great force on his head in the gutter. He died shortly afterwards.

On the 16th inst. Dr. George Hindes was *Accidentally Shot* by John Baker, Esq., of Ashgrove, at Ramfield, near Killesandra, the residence of Dr. Hindes's brother. The deceased, who resided in England, was on a visit to his brother, Dr. Hindes; and Mr. Baker, having dined there, after dinner, took down a blunderbuss from the gun-rack over the mantelpiece of the room in which they were sitting, and playfully presented the butt-end of it to the breast of Mr. Baker, and said he would shoot him. Mr. Baker struck aside the weapon with a cane which he had in his hand, and in so doing touched the trigger, when the gun, which unfortunately was charged, exploded, and the contents lodged in the chest of the unfortunate gentleman, who almost instantly expired.

On the evening of the 17th, an *Explosion* took place at the works of the Phoenix Gas Company, Bankside, Southwark. It appears that the various retorts, as usual, were being turned into the hydraulic mains, when by some means one of the mains became surcharged, the consequence of which was that the seat of it was broken, and the consequent escape of gas coming in contact with the light in the engine-house produced the explosion. The engine-house was considerably injured, the walls scorched, windows and doors blown out, and some damage done to the machinery, not sufficient, however, to prevent the company from pursuing their business as usual. The engineer was dreadfully scorched about the face and hands; and three other men were considerably injured, two of them to such an extent that they were immediately removed to St. Thomas's and Guy's hospitals.

A serious *Railway Collision* took place on the 20th inst. at a place called Clifton, about five miles from Manchester where there are two junctions. The first, called the Mullyneux Junction, is where the London and North Western Patricroft Branch runs off the East Lancashire line, down a rather steep incline to the right. The other is about three hundred yards nearer to Manchester, where the East Lancashire comes upon the Lancashire and Yorkshire line from Bolton to Manchester, and is called the Clifton Junction. The Mullyneux Junction is not much used, and there is no station, but merely a pair of self-acting points. The train to Manchester was passing the points at the Mullyneux Junction when the carriages passed on to the Patricroft branch, whilst the engine and tender kept the line towards Manchester. There were nine carriages following the engine, with a luggage van immediately behind it. All the carriages passed on to the branch, and kept the rails for about thirty yards, where they went off the line, and came to a stand in the form of a semicircle. The first carriage had nearly regained the East Lancashire line when they stopped, notwithstanding the higher level of that line, which is there about a yard above the branch. The engine was brought up without getting off the line, or the driver and stoker receiving injury. The carriages, however, came in collision at the corners, and the passengers were thrown about, and a good deal bruised. The guard, a man named Tyson, from Colne, was found to have received a blow on the head, which rendered him insensible, and, up to yesterday morning, fears were entertained for his life. There were six passengers injured, some of them severely, but none fatally. The carriages were broken at the corners, where they came in contact with each other, and the luggage van was thrown over. The train had to stop at the Clifton Junction, that the tickets might be collected, so that it was probably not going at a speed exceeding twelve miles an hour, when the accident happened, or the results might have been fatal.

Mr. Jackson, a respectable painter, of College Street, Chelsea, has *Lost his Life* in a humane attempt to save the lives of fellow-creatures. On Saturday afternoon, the 18th, as he was walking along Sloane Street, along with his wife, he saw a poor woman with two children attempting to cross the road immediately in front of a cab, which was coming along at a furious rate. Thinking that they must be run over, he tried to stop the horse, but was knocked down with great violence, and the wheels of the cab passing over the lower part of his body, he was taken up in a state of insensibility. He was conveyed to St. George's Hospital, where he died shortly afterwards, plunging a wife and seven children into the deepest distress at their sudden bereavement.

A *Fatal Coal-pit Accident* occurred on the 18th in Messrs. Baldwin's colliery, near the Pothouse Bridge, Bilston. It appears that the engine belonging to the pit is used for the double purpose of pumping and winding. At night it has been customary to detach or "throw out of gear" the winding apparatus, to allow the pumps to work without interruption. On the evening previous to the accident the bands had been thrown out of gear as usual. In the morning the night engineer, finding the water out, stopped the engine, and threw the bands in gear, as he thought, ready for operation upon the arrival of the day engineer, Alexander Jones, whose duty it was to lower the men on their arrival at six o'clock. At that time seven men and two boys placed themselves in the skip to descend, and after being lowered about ten or twelve yards they began to descend with such fearful velocity that it became evident to those on the bank that the engine was out of gear; and the nine individuals were precipitated to the bottom of the shaft, a depth of 120 yards. The band chain became detached from the sudden jerk at the extreme end from the engine shaft, and the whole chain, about 160 yards long, and near two tons weight, fell upon and buried in its iron coils the unfortunate creatures at the bottom. Nearly an hour elapsed before the chain could be removed from off the sufferers, when it was discovered that the two boys were dead, and that the whole of the men were most seriously mutilated. At the inquest the jury considered that the responsibility rested upon Jones, and returned a verdict of "Manslaughter" against him.

A lamentable *Accident from Gunpowder* occurred on the evening of the 21st at Pendlebury, near Manchester. A collier walked into a small shop to purchase some gunpowder, which he wanted for blasting. Mrs. Musgrove, the shopwoman, gave him 6 lb. of gunpowder out of a cask. He had scarcely left the shop when the remainder of the powder exploded, from what cause is not known. The explosion was followed almost immediately by that of two other casks of powder in different parts of the house. The house and shop were destroyed, Mrs. Musgrove and her two children being buried in the ruins, where they were found soon afterwards by the neighbours. Mrs. Musgrove was rescued and carried to a neighbouring public-house, where she still lies in a very dangerous state, and is not expected to recover. The two children—a girl aged seven years, and one still younger—were both more or less burnt and bruised. The accident occurred at half-past six o'clock in the evening, and, as Mrs. Musgrove had a candle in her hand at the time, it was probably caused by a spark falling from it into the cask.

SOCIAL, SANITARY, AND MUNICIPAL PROGRESS.

A SUMMARY has appeared of the proceedings of the *Encumbered Estates' Court in Ireland*, from its commencement, 25th November, 1849, to the 23rd September, 1851, from which we extract the following particulars: 23rd September, 1851: Number of petitions presented by creditors to 23rd September, 1851, 1,348; numbers lodged by owners of estates to same period, 385; number dismissed by the commissioners, 212; total number of petitions presented, 1,945. Total amount of incumbrances, as stated in the schedule to said petitions, 22,458,576*l. 7s.* Net annual rental of the estates sought to be sold by said petitions, and applicable to pay said incumbrances, 1,141,090*l. 10s. 8d.* Number of estates sold in court to the last auction day, 17th July, 1851, 333; number sold in the provinces to 13th August, 1851, 61; number sold by private contract, 46; total number of estates sold, 440. Amount realised by sale of said 333 estates in the court, 2,322,953*l. 0s. 6d.*; ditto by private sales, 236,916*l. 11s.*; ditto by provincial auctions, 1,094,631*l. 0s. 6d.*; total amount of sales, 3,654,500*l. 12s.* Total amount distributed to creditors up to 23rd September, 1851, 1,798,000*l.* Total number of conditional orders made to 23rd September, 1851, 1,450; total number of absolute orders to same day, 1,253; total number of miscellaneous ditto, 3,383. Total number of titled persons for the sale of whose estates petitions have been presented to the commissioners:—One marquis, thirteen earls, three viscounts, four barons, one lord, five honourables, twenty baronets, five knights, seven members of parliament, five ex-members of parliament.—As an example of the very moderate sum for which an estate can be sold in this court, we may mention the case of Samuel Dopping, owner, which estate was sold, and the amount, 76,225*l.* distributed for the small sum of 321*l. 1s. 5d.* Another in the matter of Arthur Robinson, owner, sold for 9,200*l.*, the costs of which, including survey, printing rentals, and distribution of the fund, amounted to but 197*l. 1s. 11d.*

In the case of a Galway gentleman, whose property was brought by petition under the Encumbered Estates Court, in the course of last month, the rental of the lands to be sold is but 50*l.*, while the encumbrances, principal and interest, exceed 15,000*l.*

Lord Leigh has given the whole of the game and preserves upon his manor of Little Leigh, in Cheshire, to trustees, for beneficial and charitable purposes within the township, including the school, and other public charities. The owners of property, and the freeholders who are resident, have all agreed to join in the same liberal object, as the occupiers of the land. The whole of the game has been let on the most advantageous terms, and it is hoped that this laudable appropriation of a property which is so often a source of annoyance and evil will be of great and general advantage.

A very important defect has just been discovered in

the New County Court Act, which will prevent landlords from recovering the tenancy of any house which has been sub-let, and from enforcing his claim for rent due, unless the tenant to whom he let the house be actually in possession. This appears from a case just tried before the County Court at Bury, where the Earl of Derby was the plaintiff, and the overseers of the poor the defendants, for the recovery of some premises used as a poor-house. The overseers were the tenants of the Earl of Derby, to whom they paid the rent; the guardians of the poor were the sub-tenants, and the actual occupiers were the paupers. The court, after referring to the 122nd section of the act, declined to make any order, as the overseers were not the actual occupiers. Hence, it will be seen, that the landlord of any property has no remedy if his premises have been sub-let, and any other person is in possession.

The communication between England and France by means of a *Submarine Electric Telegraph* across the Channel, has now been accomplished. It will be remembered that this communication was effected in September last year, but that, in a few days, the cable proved insufficient, and broke. Means have now been taken to make the cable stronger and more capable of bearing the strain upon it and the effects of friction and stormy weather. The communication, which is between Dover and the French coast near Calais, was completed on the 29th ult., and copies of the printed message containing the gratifying intelligence, were forwarded to the Queen, the Duke of Wellington, and others.

The American Ambassador, the Hon. Mr. Lawrence, has been making an extensive tour through Ireland, and has everywhere been received by all classes with the greatest cordiality. His Excellency has been endeavouring to inculcate a useful lesson in his progress; for at every place where he has had occasion to address any assemblage of Irishmen he has invariably urged the necessity of self-reliance, and advised them to bestir themselves in effecting what they judged to be for the advantage of their country.

The *Great Exhibition* closed on Saturday, the 11th inst. During the last week, there was an enormous and unexpected increase in the number of visitors. The previous maximum on any one day had amounted to 74,000. But on the last Monday, the number of persons admitted was 107,815, and on Tuesday it was 109,915, and on Wednesday 109,760. These vast multitudes conducted themselves with perfect order, and without a single casualty of any consequence. The receipts during the last week amounted to 29,795*l.* 4*s.* 6*d.*; and the entire sum received, from the opening to the closing of the Exhibition, amounted to 505,107*l.* 5*s.* 7*d.*—which sum included the money taken at the doors, season tickets, subscriptions, catalogues, refreshments, and some small items. The liabilities, in so far as they have yet been ascertained, amount to about 220,000*l.*, leaving a surplus of above a quarter of a million. Of the money received at the doors, 275,000*l.* was in silver, and 81,000*l.* in gold. The weight of the silver coin so taken (at the rate of 28*lb.* per 100*l.*) would be thirty-five tons, and its bulk nine hundred cubic feet! The rapid flood of the coin into the hands of the money-takers prevented all examination of each piece as it was received, and 90*l.* of bad silver was taken, but only one piece of bad gold, and that was a half-sovereign. The half-crown was the most usual bad coin, but a much more noticeable fact is, that nearly all the bad money was taken on the half-crown and fire-shilling days. The cash was received by eighteen money-takers; on the very heavy days six extra ones being employed during the busiest hours. From them it was gathered by three or four money-porters, who carried it to four collectors, charged with the task of counting it. From them it went to two tellers, who verified the sum, and handed it to the final custody of the chief financial officer, Mr. Carpenter, who locked each day's amount in his peculiar iron chests in the building till next morning, when, in boxes, each holding 600*l.*, it was borne off in a hackney cab in charge of a Bank of England clerk and a Bank porter.

The closing of the Exhibition, on the 11th, was not marked by any ceremonial. At five o'clock, all the organs in the building struck up the national anthem; after which the ringing of a bell warned the assemblage

to depart. They dispersed slowly and quietly; and by half-past six every person not connected with the building had retired. On Monday and Tuesday, the 13th and 14th, the privilege of a separate inspection was granted to each of the exhibitors, with two friends. The Queen, herself an exhibitor, was present on both of these days, early in the morning, before the general company were admitted. The numbers have not been officially stated, but they are guessed at upwards of thirty thousand each day. It is said that on these days enormous sales were made. Wednesday, the 15th, was the day appointed to receive the reports of the juries appointed to adjudicate the prizes to exhibitors. About 20,000 persons were assembled by twelve o'clock, at which hour Prince Albert entered the building, preceded by the members of the Royal Commission, the executive committee, the architect, contractors, foreign commissioners, jurors, &c. As soon as the procession arrived within the gates, the organ and orchestra struck up the national anthem; and the vast assemblage burst into enthusiastic cheers. His Royal Highness took his seat on the magnificent throne presented to the Queen by the Rajah of Travancore; and Viscount Canning, on behalf of the juries, read a long report detailing the manner in which they had discharged their duties. The juries were 34 in number, each consisting of an equal number of British subjects and foreigners. In the event of a jury finding themselves deficient in technical knowledge, they were empowered to call in the aid of associates who acted as advisers only, but without a vote. The juries were associated into six groups, each group consisting of such juries as had to deal with subjects in some degree of a kindred nature; and before any decision of a jury could be considered as final, it was necessary that it should be confirmed by the assembled group. The medals awarded were of two kinds, prize medals and council medals. The prize medal was conferred "whenever a certain standard of excellence in production or workmanship had been attained;" the council medal (the larger) was awarded in cases of "some important novelty of invention or application, either in material or processes of manufacture, or originality combined with great beauty of design." The number of prize medals awarded was 2,918; the number of council medals was 170. The number of exhibitors was about 17,000, and the task of the juries involved the consideration and judgment of at least a million of articles. The reading of the report being finished, and the voluminous reports of the juries having been laid before Prince Albert, his Royal Highness made a reply expressive of his satisfaction with the proceedings. The Bishop of London offered up a solemn prayer; the orchestra of the Sacred Harmonic Society performed the Hallelujah Chorus; the Prince retired, and the assemblage gradually broke up.

One of the most curious pieces of statistics connected with the Exhibition, is the immense amount of *Railway Travelling* which it produced. A statement has been published, showing the number of passengers, and receipts, of eight railway companies having their termini in London, for the 24 weeks ending the 11th instant, the period of the Exhibition, and for corresponding 24 weeks of 1850. These railways are the Great Northern, Eastern-Counties, Great-Western, Blackwall, Brighton, North-Western, South-Western, and South-Eastern. The aggregate amount received for passengers in the 24 weeks of 1850, was 2,201,647*l.*; in the 24 weeks of 1851, 2,952,802*l.*; increase, 751,155*l.* The increase on the receipts for carriage of goods in the same period was 98,460*l.* The numbers of passengers are stated on only four of the railways; the Eastern Counties, the Blackwall, the Brighton, and the South-Western. On them, the aggregate number of passengers, in the 24 weeks of 1850, was 8,671,300; in the 24 weeks of the Exhibition, 11,505,544; being an increase of 2,834,244.

A *Telegraphic Congress* has assembled at Vienna to draw up measures for facilitating telegraphic communications between different countries. It proposes to establish a union between different states; to have translators employed, so as to transmit all despatches without delay; to have a uniform tariff; to pay their receipts into a common fund, and to divide them afterwards between the states, in proportion to the length of their telegraphic lines, &c. The new arrangements

are, it is said, to come into operation on the 1st of January next; and, if France shall accede to them, it will be possible to send a despatch in a very few minutes from Trieste to Calais or Ostend.

In the new act to amend the law of evidence, which will come into force on the first day of next month, there is a most important provision, which will *Prevent the necessity of suits in Equity to obtain an inspection of Documents*. It is enacted that, "whenever any action or other legal proceedings shall henceforth be pending in any of the superior courts of common law at Westminster, or Dublin, or the Court of Common Pleas for the county palatine of Lancaster, or the Court of Pleas for the county of Durham, such court, and each of the judges thereof, may respectively, on application made for such purpose by either of the litigants, compel the opposite party to allow the party making the application to inspect all documents in the custody, or under the control of such opposite party relating to such action or other legal proceeding, and if necessary to take examined copies of the same, or to procure the same to be duly stamped, in all cases in which previous to the passing of this act a discovery might have been obtained by filing a bill or other proceeding in a court of equity, at the instance of the party so making application as aforesaid to the said court or judge." This act has a retrospective effect with regard to the examination of plaintiffs and defendants—both are not only competent, but "compellable" to give evidence.

An important return respecting the *Expenses of Actions in County Courts*, has been printed among the papers ordered by the House of Lords. It will be seen that considerable fees can be saved by suitors agreeing without a public hearing. The costs of an ordinary defended action, for any amount between 20*l.* and 50*l.*, are 3*l.* 11*s.* 8*d.*; for any action not exceeding 1*l.*, the costs are 2*s.* 11*d.*, not exceeding 2*l.*, the costs are 6*s.* 4*d.*; above 2*l.* and not exceeding 20*l.*, the expense is 3*s.* 7*d.* in the pound. About half only of the causes in which plaintiffs are entered are tried, and by that means the suitors in cases between 20*l.* and 50*l.* save the hearing fee of 2*l.* 3*s.* 4*d.*, and the bailiff's fee of 1*s.* 8*d.*, together 2*l.* 5*s.*, thereby reducing the costs to 1*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* In any case where a counsel or an attorney is employed, the above costs do not include any fee paid to them, nor do they include the costs of witnesses. In no case under 5*l.* are the costs of counsel or attorneys allowed. Thus it will be seen that parties, by arranging as to terms, can materially lessen the expenses.

Penny Omnibuses began to run on the 21st inst. The line of route selected was Oxford Street, and passengers were conveyed from the end of Tottenham Court-road to the Edgware Road for one penny. The vehicles were abundantly patronised. They started from either end every ten minutes, and no sooner was one set of passengers put down than double the number the vehicle could accommodate were struggling for seats. It is understood that the entire leading thoroughfares of the metropolis have been parcelled into one penny and twopenny stages, and that omnibuses are forthwith to be put on for the conveyance of passengers at those rates.

The privilege of *Selling Newspapers and Books at the Railway Stations* of the South-Western Railway Company has been leased to Messrs. Smith, the news agents of the Strand, for 1000*l.* a-year.

The *National Freehold Land Society* is extending its operations in the southern counties. It has made another valuable purchase, consisting of an estate at Chichester, within three-quarters of a mile south-east of the city walls, on the Bognor-road. The estate is already laid out in a picturesque manner, and is intersected by a good road running from east to west, called Wickham-road. At a meeting of the society, held at Chichester a few evenings ago, to celebrate this acquisition, the chair was occupied by the Rev. W. Malden, a clergyman of the place. Mr. Clarke, of Walthamstow, delivered an address, in which he pointed out the desirability of the industrious classes availing themselves of this excellent opportunity of obtaining the franchise by such a small outlay. Mr. Whittingham, the secretary of the society, detailed its operations from the commencement, showing that the scheme had flourished far beyond the most sanguine anticipations. He trusted

that the advantages held out by their having obtained an estate in close proximity to the stronghold of Protection would not be lost sight of; at the same time he disclaimed any political bias for the society, its object being to widen the franchise for the benefit of all parties.

The annual meeting of the friends and supporters of the *Tonbridge Chapel Sunday Schools and Evening Ragged Schools* took place on the 22nd inst., and was numerously attended. The Rev. J. Woodwark, the minister of the chapel, presided. Mr. Puckett, the secretary, read the report, from which it appeared that this ragged school had been established as a supplement to the Agartown School, in connexion with the Ragged School Union. It was conducted entirely by voluntary teachers; and the committee had to regret that a larger number did not tender their services. Many children were anxious to attend on these long evenings; but the committee were obliged to limit the attendance according to the number of teachers. The present number of scholars in the Sunday school was 453—215 boys and 238 girls; of teachers 38—15 male and 23 female. In the branch school the number on the books was 361, of teachers 14. The average attendance at the Sunday evening ragged school was 40 girls and 50 boys; making a total of 904 who were under instruction. A valuable auxiliary to the schools was a circulating library, which was much prized by the children, and was also beneficial to their parents; but it was crippled in its usefulness through want of the necessary funds to procure new books. The treasurer's account showed a balance of 2*l.* due to the officer, which the meeting were asked to aid in liquidating, as well as to provide the necessary expenses of the management of the schools for the next half-year.

The following important order has been issued by the Postmaster-General:—"On and from the 1st of November next, all letters or packets posted at any provincial post-office for places within the United Kingdom, must either be pre-paid by stamps, or be sent unpaid, as money prepayment for inland letters will no longer be permitted at any such office."

The *Electric Telegraph* has just been introduced into the principal school at Bishopswearmouth; the wires being laid throughout the establishment, and the orders of the head master being instantaneously transmitted to the associates and servants.

PERSONAL NARRATIVE.

THE Queen left her Highland residence of Balmoral on the 7th, and arrived at Windsor Castle on the 11th. During her Majesty's progress homewards, she visited Liverpool and Manchester, in pursuance of her intention, announced a considerable time before; and magnificent preparations accordingly were made for her reception.

In her Majesty's journey between Balmoral and Edinburgh, two railway casualties took place. Near Forfar the axle of one of the carriages took fire from friction, and some delay was incurred in taking off the carriage. At Broomhouse, about thirteen miles from Edinburgh, a slight explosion was heard, and the carriages became enveloped in steam; the engine gradually lost power, and came to a dead stand. It was found that one of the feeding-pipes leading from the tender to the boiler of the engine had burst. A train from Glasgow was nearly due, danger-signals were despatched down the line, and every precaution was taken to prevent any accident. The Queen, on being made aware of the cause of the delay, evinced her usual self-possession and considerate composure; assuring the directors of the railway who were in the train with their engineer, that she had the fullest confidence in their judgment and discretion. A fresh engine was attached to the carriages just as the Glasgow train came slowly up, and stopped at a safe distance in the rear. The delay caused by the accident was upwards of an hour. The Queen arrived safely at Edinburgh about eight o'clock in the evening, and drove to Holyrood, amid the acclamations of an immense cor-

course of people. Next morning her Majesty continued her journey, and arrived in the afternoon at Croxeth Hall, the seat of the Earl of Sefton, where the royal party passed the night. Thursday, the 9th, was fixed for the royal progress through Liverpool. At the Queen's special desire, the cortège went from Croxeth Hall to Liverpool by the route through the beautiful domain of Knowsley. The Earl and Countess of Derby, with their young family, were in attendance on the Queen in an open phaeton, and the tenantry grouped themselves at various points on the five-miles drive through the park. The boundary of the borough of Liverpool on the West Derby road, was reached by the Queen's carriages shortly after ten o'clock; and the Mayor of Liverpool was presented to her Majesty by Earl Grey. As the rain had already commenced heavily, the Queen could do no more than bow to the thousands of spectators who there first greeted her. The general plan of the route was, that the procession passed from the eastern approach of the town to the south, and, describing a curve which embraced the principal southern streets, it came to the Docks in front of the Goree Piazza, about level on the western side of the town, with the point at which entrance had been made on the east side. Then an excursion by water was made on the river, as far along the two coasts as sufficiently displayed all the wonders of the docks and shipping. Then the return journey was made through the more central and northern streets, with a special halt for luncheon at the Town-hall, and minor stoppages at other principal buildings. All the streets on the route had been fenced with timber barricades, so as to keep the space to be traversed by the carriages free from passengers. A selected guard of many thousands of young gentlemen, dressed in black and wearing white rosettes, were commissioned to keep the carriage-road free. By the residents on the route there had been erected almost continuous platforms, to a great extent covered by awnings. It rained incessantly the whole day, but nothing could damp the loyal enthusiasm of the people, who crowded the streets by tens of thousands, and everywhere received the royal party with acclamations. In the Town-hall, the address of the Corporation was presented by Mr. Bent, the Mayor, on whom the Queen conferred the honour of knighthood. On leaving Liverpool her Majesty and suite proceeded to Worsley-hall, the seat of the Earl of Ellesmere. At the canal works, at the village of Worsley, were congregated the colliers and labourers employed on the Ellesmere estates, with their families to the number of more than twenty thousand souls.—On Friday morning, the 10th, the Queen left Worsley-hall for Manchester. The route lay through the villages of Swinton, Irlam o' th' Height, and Pendleton, to Salford. The Mayor of Salford received her Majesty, and conducted her to the Peel Park, in which place it had been decided by her Majesty that she would receive an address from the Mayor and Corporation of Salford. Arrangements had been made for collecting in the park all the Sunday-school children of Manchester and its immediate suburbs, to afford her Majesty an opportunity of judging what extensive provision is made for the education of the young in such institutions in this densely populated district; and the consequence was, that such an assemblage of school-children was collected as probably could not be equalled in any other part of the kingdom. The number of children present was about 80,000, besides some 3000 or 4000 teachers. A handsome pavilion was erected at the north end of the park for the presentation of the address to the Queen, and at eleven o'clock the loud cheers of the people outside the park announced the approach of her Majesty, whose carriage shortly afterwards drove up, its occupants being the Queen, Prince Albert, the Prince of Wales, and the Princess Royal. The address was then read by the Town Clerk, and another address was presented to Prince Albert but not read. A catalogue of the Salford Public Library (of which her Majesty and Prince Albert are patrons), very handsomely bound, was then presented to the Queen. Her Majesty then passed between the two galleries in which the schools were situated, and as the Royal carriage entered the western end of the broad carriage-way which had been reserved in the centre, the

80,000 children, led by a brass band, commenced the national anthem. The effect, though singular from the shrillness of so many sharp treble voices, was very striking and impressive. The Duke of Wellington, who was in an open carriage in her Majesty's train, was recognised by the people, and was loudly and enthusiastically cheered.

The Royal party then proceeded through the park on its way to Manchester. The Victoria Bridge, which crosses the Irwell and joins Salford to Manchester, was reached at noon. The Mayor, Mr. Potter, was introduced to the Queen; and then the carriages again set forward on their procession through the main streets of Manchester. Her Majesty passed under gorgeous triumphal arches; flags and banners waved in every window; and the streets were filled with enthusiastic multitudes. The Corporation address was presented at the Exchange Rooms. Among the Company, were the Earl of Granville, the Earl of Carlisle, Lord de Tabley, the Bishop and Dean of Manchester, and Mr. John Bright. The address declared that the sentiment of gratitude at the public visit of the Sovereign was greatly enhanced "when, as on this occasion, it was conferred for the first time in the course of centuries, by the glorious condescension of not only a Sovereign but a Queen"; it referred to the effects of the "enlightened policy" which, "based on the full and enlightened recognition of a wisely-regulated freedom," are now strikingly manifest in the increased content and happiness of her Majesty's people. The Queen replied:—"I rejoice to have been enabled to visit your borough, the capital of one of the most important branches of industry carried on in my dominions; and I have derived the highest gratification from the favourable account you are enabled to give me of the condition of my people,—with which, in this large and manufacturing district, you must be intimately acquainted." Her Majesty then summoned to her presence Mr. Potter, the Mayor, and conferred on him the honour of knighthood. An address was likewise presented to Prince Albert. The Royal party then retired from the room, the company breaking into a loud and long cheer as her Majesty passed. The Queen again spent the night at Worsley Hall, where there was a large party of visitors to meet her Majesty. The Bishop of Manchester presented an address signed by himself, Archdeacon Rushton, and 340 clergymen of the diocese: its chief topic was the responsibilities of the clergy in reference to the Christian education of the people. On Saturday morning, the 11th, the Queen and Prince left Worsley Hall on their return to Windsor.

The Queen has conferred the honour of knighthood on Mr. Paxton, Mr. Fox, and Mr. Cubitt; and the Commissioners have resolved that Sir Joseph Paxton shall receive 5000*l*.

Royal Letters-patent, have been issued appointing Vice-Chancellor Sir James Lewis Knight Bruce, and Vice-Chancellor Lord Cranworth, to be Judges of the Court of Appeal in Chancery.

Alderman William Hunter has been elected Lord Mayor of London for the ensuing year. The new Sheriffs are Mr. Thomas Cotterell and Mr. James Swift. The ceremony of swearing in the new Sheriffs of London and Middlesex, Messrs. Cotterell and Swift, was rendered remarkable by the appearance of Father O'Connor, of Islington, a Romish priest, in full canonicals, as chaplain to Sheriff Swift, who is of that persuasion, it being the first time that any clergyman of the Roman Catholic faith has officiated in any civic ceremonial since the reign of Henry VIII.

In consequence of the present delicate state of health of Professor Wilson, he has been obliged to make arrangements for dispensing with the delivery of his lectures on moral philosophy, in the University of Edinburgh, at the ensuing session.

The Rev. R. Whiston, master of the Cathedral Grammar-school of Rochester, has been elected a Senior Fellow of Trinity College Cambridge.

Mr. Alderman Salomons has received notice of trial in two actions to recover penalties from him "for voting in the House of Commons without having first taken the oaths required by law."

The pulpit of the Wesleyan Chapel, at Oxford, was occupied, on Sunday the 19th, by a gentleman named

Fletcher, of the great age of 105. His discourse (in praying and preaching) lasted nearly three quarters of an hour. Although the chapel is a large one, the venerable preacher's voice was distinctly heard by all. A proof of his memory being retentive was his quoting scripture texts frequently and accurately.

The Marquis of Londonderry has made another appeal in behalf of *Abd el Kader* to the President of the French Republic. His lordship, in a letter dated the 25th of August, says, "If *Abd el Kader* was to die in *Louis Napoleon's* prison, there would be the blot no waters of *Lethe* could ever wash out. If you now longer hesitate, who can pronounce if you will remain with the power for this noble achievement? *Louis Philippe* kept *Louis Napoleon*, notwithstanding his princely parole, in durance vile. *Louis Philippe* became an exile, and *Louis Napoleon* was raised to govern France. Can *Louis Napoleon* imitate the scourge under which he was himself striped, and can he range his hitherto honourable name with that of a *D'Aumale* or a *Lamorière*, in a treacherous or broken promise, contrary to all the rules of war and of civilised nations?" The Marquis says, in conclusion:—"If this, my last appeal, produces neither result nor positive data of hopes of success, I shall immediately give to the public and to the world, the correspondence and letters, copies of which are in my possession, of the *Duc D'Aumale* and *General Lamorière*, as I have pledged myself to do in my place in the House of Lords. I would not wish to bear hardly upon the *Duc D'Aumale*, who may require pity and commiseration for princely weakness, and who may have been in the hands of others, but for *General Lamorière*, who evinced to the world (brave soldier as all declared him to be) neither generosity nor good faith, in not securing to himself (when he was Minister of War) the deliverance of the man whom he had deceived and betrayed in the capitulation with the Emir, I think and feel no public exposition of the transaction can become too notorious." *Louis Napoleon's* answer, dated 13th September, is full of professions of good intention—"You remind me," he says, "of *Abd el Kader's* misfortunes, which is very natural; but you ask me if the possession of power has changed my heart. You ought to know me well enough to be aware that honours, in my eyes, are merely a burden, which cannot dazzle me, or paralyze the noble dispositions of my soul. When I do not accomplish all the good which I desire, it is because I cannot. My intentions towards the Emir are not changed: I found the Ottoman Porte well disposed to receive him, but, for the moment, I find great obstacles. The Minister of War has been to see *Abd el Kader* a few days ago. He found him quite resigned, made him understand that he must wait still, and endeavoured by all possible means, to mitigate the hardship of his situation."

Kossuth has Arrived in England, after having been refused permission to pass through France in his way. On the arrival of the *Mississippi* (the American frigate sent to convey him), in *Marseilles Roads*, he addressed a note to the Prefect of the Department, demanding a free passage and protection through France, it being his intention to go to England and place his children at school there before proceeding to the United States. The answer was that the demand could not be complied with; and *Kossuth*, after expressing, in an address to the "Democrats of *Marseilles*" the feelings excited by this treatment, proceeded to *Gibraltar*. From thence he sailed in the *Peninsular* steam ship *Madrid* on the 15th inst, and arrived at *Southampton* on the 23rd. His arrival had been for some days eagerly expected, and great preparations were made for his reception. Mr. Andrews, the Mayor of *Southampton*, went off in a boat to meet the vessel; and, on her entering the dock, she was received with loud cheers by the assembled crowd, among whom were many Hungarian refugees. Several of *Kossuth's* friends immediately went on board. Among them were M. and Madame *Pulzsky*. Their meeting was most tender. *Kossuth* pressed Madame *Pulzsky* to his heart, while his eyes filled with tears, which slowly rolled down his cheeks. M. *Pulzsky* saluted Madame *Kossuth* most warmly; and she and Madame *Pulzsky* flew into each other's arms, kissed each other, and wept, by turns. *Kossuth's* children, a

girl of about fourteen, and two boys of about twelve and ten, were then embraced, and a general shaking of hands took place. This little scene touched all the bystanders; but the enthusiasm on shore, as the *Madrid* came alongside and the exiles beheld *Kossuth*, was tremendous, and in their anxiety they nearly pushed each other into the water. The moment he set his foot upon the quay, his countrymen crowded round him; many of them threw themselves upon his neck; all seized his hand, kissed it, and shook it as if they could not be persuaded to part with it. The English who were nearest him, eagerly offered their hands, which he shook most warmly. He then, with his family, entered an open carriage and proceeded to the Mayor's house. He immediately appeared at the balcony, and, uncovering his head, expressed his joy and gratitude in a few sentences of pure and energetic English. Madame *Kossuth* also came forward and acknowledged the welcome given her by waving her handkerchief. The children were next called for; the eldest boy was held up by his father, amid the cheers of the multitude. In the afternoon, the corporation and other persons assembled in the Town Hall, when the address of the corporation was presented. The principal topic of his answer, (eloquently delivered in English) was an eulogy of the British government, institutions, and people. "I hope," he said, "that England will ever remain great, glorious, and free. I regard history, and I see the English race almost the one single race that is free in both hemispheres of the world; and when I look for the key of that freedom, I readily confess that it is to be found in the municipal institutions, which have not been absorbed by the propensity to centralisation, and which have been conserved under different forms of government—here Monarchical, in America Republican. For, gentlemen, it is not the institutions, but the spirit of the people embodied in these institutions, which makes the two offshoots of that mighty race great, glorious, and free. It is, therefore, with the highest gratification that I receive this address at your hands, Mr. Mayor, and from this corporation. As to my humble self, conscious of no merit, and never aspiring to any reputation but that of a plain honest man, faithful to the duties of a true friend of freedom and of a patriot, I could not forbear feeling perplexed to see myself the object of such undeserved honour, were it not that I am aware your generous manifestation is intended as an open countenance to the principles of freedom, of justice, and of popular rights, which my nation so valiantly struggled for, and which you so happily enjoy. It is a glorious position which the English race holds in the world—almost the only free nation, doubtless the only one whose freedom has to fear neither the change of time nor the ambition of man, provided it keep to its institutions—provided the public spirit of the people continue to safeguard it by adapting those institutions to the exigencies of the times, and by a manly resolution never to fail in meeting those exigencies." He went on to say that the free people of England cannot be indifferent to the freedom of the rest of Europe. "The people of England is conscious of its glorious position, and it knows that, will it conserve that position, it must not grant to Austrian despots to dispose of the whole of Europe, but that it must throw its own weight into the balance of the fate of Europe, or England will be no European power more. It is this knowledge which is the source of hope and consolation to my oppressed nation, as well as to her fellow nations in the world, because the principles of your freedom, greatness, and happiness, are bound up in this; and in the generous sentiments of the people of England we are positively assured that if the people of England throw its weight into the balance of the fate of Europe, the people of England will never side with injustice, but with right—it will never side with oppression, but with freedom—it will never side with a few great families, but with the moral dignity of the people. I hope before I leave this country, to see in full activity, and spread over the whole of these glorious isles, some of those mighty associations by which you carry triumphantly every reform, every great principle in this country. I hope some of these associations will lend their attention to the solidarity of the independence of

Hungary with the freedom, the peace, and the independence of Europe and of these glorious isles—that they will take arms and give a practical direction to the generous sympathy of the people of England for my poor down-trodden and unhappy land, and reduce under a ruling principle the sentiments of public spirit in the people, which shows that they are ready to accept the solidarity of their own freedom with the destinies of man, and especially with the destinies of Europe.” “Let me end,” he said in conclusion, “by pronouncing my most sincere wishes for the happiness of these great, free, and glorious isles. Let me repeat, that I take it to be a most glorious sight to see your gracious Queen representing upon the throne the principles of liberty; and let me hope that the acknowledgment will not only have a future in Europe, but that the time draws near when you will have to applaud the success of those endeavours for which you now manifest such generous sympathy, even in their adversity and misfortune. It is a much greater right to acknowledge a principle in adversity than to hail it in success. I hope, gentleman, you will excuse me. My life has been spent in hard work for my country. I have not had time to cultivate the civilisation of western Europe, but my heart is devoted to England; and you will meet never a man who has a greater sympathy for you and for your glorious country.” When he finished he was strenuously cheered, and a cry for “Three groans for Austria!” was heartily responded to.

An address from the working men of Southampton was then presented. It was acknowledged by M. Kossuth with a tribute of admiration to our working men—“those men who by that great gift of God, industry, have raised their country to be the living wonder of the world.”

On the following day M. Kossuth visited Winchester. The citizens went out in procession to meet him at St. Cross, and took him with music and banners to the residence of the Mayor of Southampton, near the town. Lord Dudley Stuart was of the party; and in the evening Mr. Cobden arrived from Southampton, whither he had gone in the morning from Sussex, and whence he had pursued the party he was there too late to join.

On the 25th, the Mayor of Southampton entertained M. Kossuth at a *déjeuner* at his residence near Winchester. The principal members of the corporation were present; and Lord Dudley Stuart, Mr. Cobden, Mr. Croskey, the American consul, M. Pulzsky, and several Hungarian officers, were among the company. On M. Kossuth's health being given by the mayor, he addressed the company at great length, entering very fully into the history of his country, describing the free constitution of Hungary, the nature of her connexion with Austria, and the series of arbitrary and oppressive proceedings on the part of that power, which led to the struggle in which he bore so large a part. The company were afterwards addressed by Lord Dudley Stuart, Mr. Cobden, and the American consul, who assured M. Kossuth of the sympathy of his countrymen—“He felt sure that when their illustrious guest reached the shores of America, he would be received by all parties, whether Whig or Democrat, as Lafayette was received in 1825—as the nation's guest.”

Many meetings have been held in London and the provinces, for the purpose of presenting addresses to Kossuth, congratulating him on his liberation from captivity, and his arrival in this country. The Common Council of the City of London met for this purpose on the 2nd inst. A great meeting of the inhabitants of

Westminster was held at the Hanover Square Rooms on the 20th, when a similar address was adopted. Meetings of the same kind have taken place at Leeds, Glasgow, Bath, Bradford, Newcastle, Derby, Exeter, and other towns; and an address of thanks to Lord Palmerston for his interference with the Turkish government, in favour of Kossuth, has been voted by the corporation of Southampton.

Obituary of Notable Persons.

JAMES FENIMORE COOPER, the celebrated American novelist, died at his residence in Cooperstown, in the state of New York, on the 14th of September, in his 62nd year.

PRINCE FREDERICK WILLIAM CHARLES OF PRUSSIA died at Berlin on the 25th ult. He was the brother of the late Frederick William the Third, and uncle of the present king. He leaves one son and two daughters, Prince Adalbert, Marie Queen of Bavaria, and Elisabeth, married to Prince Charles of Hesse.

THE DUCHESS D'ANGOULEME died at Frohsdorf on the 19th inst., the anniversary of the execution of her mother, Maria Antoinette.

THE EX-Dewan MOOLRAJ OF MOOLTAN died on the 11th of August, on his voyage down the Ganges from Fort William to Allahabad, to which latter place he had been directed to be conveyed for safety—a plot for his liberation from the former place having been detected in time to prevent mischief arising from it.

THE HON. J. E. DRINKWATER BETHUNE, fourth Ordinary Member of the Supreme Council of India, died at Calcutta on the 12th of August.

COMMODORE JOHN CROFT HAWKINS, the senior officer of the Indian navy in India, met his death at Bombay by the overturning of his curricle on the morning of the 25th of August, when on his way home from Government House. The night was very dark and boisterous, with heavy rain, and the lights on the esplanade having gone out, the deceased could not see his way distinctly: one of the wheels of the curricle having got upon the low wall near the Apollo Gate, caused the vehicle to overturn.

THE EARL OF LIVERPOOL died suddenly of spasm of the heart on the night of the 2nd inst., at his seat, Buxted Park, Sussex, in his 61th year.

VISCOUNT BOLINGBROKE died on the 1st inst., at the residence of his daughter the Hon. Mrs. Shaw, near Elgin, in his 65th year.

LORD STAFFORD died at Hampton Court on the 4th inst., in his 81st year.

DON MANUEL GODOY, the once celebrated Prince of the Peace, the minister of Charles VI. and Ferdinand VII. of Spain, died at his lodgings in the Rue Michodière, Boulevards Italiens, on Saturday last, in the 87th year of his age. He had been residing in the same house for the last thirty years.

M. DE SAVIGNY, member of the Academy of Sciences, and known for his works on zoology, has died at Versailles at an advanced age.

THE ARCHBISHOP OF UPSAL, and Primate of the Kingdom of Sweden, has died at Upsal, in the 71st year of his age.

COUNT REVENTLOW, the Danish ambassador to the British Court, died on the 6th inst., at the Star Hotel, Glasgow. His excellency had been paying a visit to Sir J. Matheson at Lewes, and was on his return to London when he was suddenly taken ill, and expired almost instantly.

MRS. SHERWOOD, the authoress, died at her residence, Yelverton Place, Twickenham, on the 22nd ult., in her 77th year.

MR. GILLHAM, the proprietor of the famous “Joe's” chop-house, in Finch Lane, City, died on the 28th ult. from the effects of a fall, having overbalanced himself while leaning over the sill of his bed room window to speak to his servant, and falling on his skull, fractured it. Mr. Gillham leaves a splendid fortune, amassed by him from the profits of his chop-house, where, until lately, he was to be seen daily, attired in apron and sleeves, and cutting steaks.

THE HON. MRS. GEORGE LEIGH, half sister to Lord Byron, died at St. James's Palace on the 12th inst., in the 69th year of her age. The deceased was the daughter of Capt. John Byron by Amelia Darcy, Baroness Conyers, whose previous marriage with Francis, fifth Duke of Leeds, was dissolved. She was born in 1783, and in 1807 married her cousin George Leigh, Esq., son of General Charles Leigh, by Francis, her aunt, daughter of Admiral John Byron.

LIEUT.-GENERAL SIR HUGH FRASER, K.C.B., died suddenly on the 6th inst., at Braemar, in the 78th year of his age.

COLONIES AND DEPENDENCIES.

THE war with the Kaffirs rages unchecked, and the call for “more men from England” continues, while the colonists look on with folded arms and refuse to take personal part in protection of the colony till their own terms are entirely and without abatement granted to them. One might have supposed that to save a colony might fairly have preceded and justified the demand completely to govern it; but there has not been more magnanimity shown at Cape Town than in Downing Street through the whole of this disas-

trous war. In the latter place of purgatory, it has just been announced, Mr. Frederick Peel succeeds Mr. Hawes, and may at any rate be tolerably free from the fear that after his term of service he will leave things worse than he found them. That would not be possible. Let us add that a better selection for this *bête noir* of an undersecretaryship could not have been made. Mr. Peel is the most promising young statesman of his party; resembling his father closely not only in person and manner, but in all such attributes of mind as he has hitherto had occasion to display.

The overland mail from *Bombay*, of the 1st of September, brings little interesting news. Gholab Singh had put down the insurrection which his tax-gatherers had caused in the northern parts of his dominions; and he had been formally congratulated by the British authorities on the event. Moolraj, of Mooltan celebrity, who cost us so much at the end of the Lahore war, has expired in captivity. The last mail brought reports of the discovery of plots for his escape to Nepal; and it was on his journey from the place in which he had hitherto been confined to some more secure fortress that he died. An enormous quantity of rain had fallen in the valley of the Indus; more rain had fallen in twenty days than had fallen in the twenty years preceding: hundreds of villages had been swept away, and with an immense loss of property there had been also a great loss of lives.

A Court Martial was held at *Penang* on the 3rd and 4th of September, on Commander Peter Cracroft and the officers and crew of her Majesty's steam sloop, *Reynard*, for the loss of that vessel, wrecked on the 31st of May, on the reefs near Pratas Island. The Court were of opinion that the said vessel was set on shore by the irregular currents, which have been proved to be very uncertain both in strength and direction; and that after she struck upon the shoal every effort that could have been adopted was made to save the vessel, and that she was not abandoned until it would have exposed her crew to great danger and loss of life by remaining by the wreck. The court were also of opinion that an error in judgment was committed in approaching the shoal from the south-east, when it was steep to, instead of from, the north-west, where it appears, on the authority of Horsburgh's Directory and the Admiralty chart, that soundings project two or three miles; also that due precautions, as laid down in the Admiralty instructions, were not taken, inasmuch as no leadmen were in the chains, nor any casts of the deep sea lead taken. The court, therefore, deemed the commander, and Mr. McCauland, the master, worthy of censure, but in consideration of their high character, only adjudged them to be admonished; while they expressed their high approbation of the exemplary conduct displayed by the commander, officers, and crew under the most trying circumstances.

The *Canadian* ministry have resigned. Their resignations were not sent in *en masse*, but Mr. Hincks, the inspector-general, and Mr. Morris, the postmaster-general, sent their resignations; and this made such a rupture of the ministry, as to make the resignation of the whole a matter of necessity. The chief point of division is the clergy reserves. Mr. Hincks is in favour of the secularisation of these, while Mr. Lafontaine holds the converse creed.—The grand provincial agricultural exhibition has been held in Brockville. About 12,000 visitors from different parts of the province and the United States were present. The show of cattle and horses was not quite so large as usual, but the grains were very superior, and have never been surpassed; much finer specimens of wheat were shown than those sent to London at the Industrial Exhibition. The show of butter and cheese was very good; as was also that of agricultural implements.

The last advices from *Sydney* give some satisfactory assurances against the probability of any extensive desertion of their vessels by the seamen in the port in consequence of the discovery of the gold mines. The desertion at San Francisco when the Californian gold was discovered was universal, because there was no marine police, but at Sydney there is an organised and efficient force for the protection of the harbour and the

prevention of offences. There is a water-police magistrate especially appointed to decide maritime disputes, to whom a jurisdiction, most important to the commerce of the colony, has been recently given under the Mercantile Marine Act to hear and determine certain cases summarily which were previously sent to a jury. These cases comprise any wilful damage of a ship or embezzlement of her stores, and wilful disobedience or neglect of duty, or any combination for that purpose, and the penalties range from one to three months' imprisonment, with or without hard labour. An instance of the enforcement of the act has already occurred, and in a way to show that it will prove effective. On the 5th of June the crew of the emigrant ship *Emperor*, just arrived, struck, and positively refused to do more duty, the motive of the combination being obviously an intention to get to the diggings. An unsatisfactory plea was set up in justification, and they were all sentenced to hard labour for twelve weeks.

In reference to the derangement of the labour and produce market, the new evidence is corrective of the first accounts. The numbers of miners appear to have been much fewer than was supposed. About ten days before the latest accounts came from the diggings, the number was estimated to be 1500, and at the latest moment they were set down at 2000. The accounts also contain statements, repeated in many forms, that the desertion of shepherds was not so extensive as had at first been represented; nor have the prices of provisions risen so enormously as was stated.

Intelligence from the *Cape of Good Hope* has been received to the 12th of September. A serious engagement took place on the 1st of September in the Fish River Bush. A detachment, under Lieutenant-Colonel Burne, 2nd Royals, encountered a body of Stock's, Seyolo's, and Botman's Kaffirs, with a number of Hotentots. Several desperate charges were made by the men of the 2nd, who, though unused to this kind of fighting, displayed great spirit. Two men of this regiment were killed, and five wounded; of the Royal Sappers and Miners one was killed and one wounded; in the Cape Corps and Armstrong's Horse two men were wounded. The dead and wounded were sent to Fort Peddie, and the detachment returned to King William's Town. On their march the Kaffirs are said to have attacked them again; very heavy firing was heard by persons at Fort Peddie, in the direction in which the troops had gone, but the result was not known. On the 2nd the Kaffirs attacked some waggons on their way to Graham's Town from below Southwell, and succeeded in carrying off five spans of oxen, worth 300*l*. The affair was reported to Major-General Somerset, when pursuit was immediately made, and eighteen of the oxen recovered. From Lyndoch, intelligence has been received that most of the Tambookie servants, who had hitherto remained faithful, have joined the enemy, and have assisted in driving off their master's cattle, horses, and sheep. Some sharp conflicts had taken place between the colonists (Messrs. Pringle, Scott, Niland, and others) and the marauders, several of whom were shot. In these actions, unfortunately, two burghers were killed, and others wounded. Numerous other skirmishes of military and colonial patrols with the enemy have taken place; but it does not appear that any material effect has yet been produced in restraining the activity or diminishing the boldness of the enemy. Every post brought accounts of fresh depredations and ravages, committed at various points within the line of the frontier. The presence of the troops in the colony appears to have had little influence in repressing the ravages of the enemy, except in the immediate vicinity of the forces. The movements of General Somerset are said to have had rather the effect of encouraging than of restraining

the enemy. The district of Somerset was in such imminent danger that a most urgent message had again been sent to entreat for aid from Graaf-Reinet. The disaffection among the coloured classes was apparently extending. Some of the frontier farmers were again retreating westward with the remnants of their flocks and herds. Many heavy losses had been suffered from the depredations of the enemy. In the mean time there appear to be no indication of any change of system in the management of the war. A force of a thousand men had marched from King William's Town to Fort Hare, and back again to head-quarters, without seeing a single Kaffir. In the north, the aspect of affairs is described as being, if possible, still more gloomy. In the Albert division two farmers had been surprised and killed by the enemy. Three hundred Kaffirs had entered that district, and swept off a large number of cattle and horses. The colony of Natal, too, is represented to be in a very unsettled state. The secretary to government, Mr. Moodie, who has been for some time at variance with the lieutenant-governor, had resigned his office. The diplomatic agent, Mr. Shepstone, is said to have lost his influence over the natives, who were getting more and more independent and unmanageable.

PROGRESS OF EMIGRATION AND COLONISATION.

The current of *Emigration from Ireland* goes on increasing. On the 4th inst., a steamer left Waterford for Liverpool, with 400 emigrants on board, whose ultimate destination is the United States. It is stated that the average number which have sailed from the port of Waterford alone, during the season, has been 570 weekly; that no less than forty tenants of one noble proprietor have emigrated within these few weeks, carrying away the money realised by the sale of their crops, and that one agent, in the City of Cork, has received as much as 1000*l.* in one day, from emigrant passengers in chartered vessels. The Report of the Commissioners of Emigration shows a *decrease of Emigrants to Canada* in 1850 from the previous year. In the year ending December, 1850, the number of emigrants from the United Kingdom to Canada were 22,635; and of those, only 18,380 remained in the province; 15,723 went to the United States. In the previous year, the number of emigrants to Canada was 38,495. It is only about thirteen years since that the tide of emigration from the United Kingdom ceased to flow in greatest force against the shores of these British provinces, and took the direction of the United States.

NARRATIVE OF FOREIGN EVENTS.

FRANCE is undergoing another crisis, which is less likely to end pleasantly for the parties engaged in it than the many similar conjunctures over which M. Bonaparte and his friends have been carried during the last three years. The quarrel between the president and the governing party in the assembly has reached its final and irreconcilable stage. To quote a proverb peculiarly applicable, the rogues have at last so thoroughly fallen out that honest men are likely to get their own. Deceived and betrayed, as his partisans allege, by the statesmen who induced him to consent to the law which disfranchised some three millions of the French people, deserting him as soon as it was passed, M. Bonaparte now discovers that his only chance of re-election lies in the votes of the very millions whom he disfranchised, all the various parliamentary parties having flatly turned against him. So he will open the popular floodgates once again, and take the chance of being able still to stand by himself and see his old allies of the assembly utterly swept away. It is a stake which could not have been played but by one whose chances have become desperate; and it is with a feeling of hopelessness and despair on all sides that the issue seems to be waited for in France. In other continental countries less anxiety is felt than when danger less gravely impended, such being generally the effect of living amid unceasing alarms; and for matter of interest we have to cross to other quarters of the globe. In California there have occurred some cases of Lynch law, of which the peculiar atrocity has been that they do not appear to have been excused by any failure of justice, or the power of enforcing it, in the regular government; but to have been impelled simply by the savage lust of a mob to execute what it supposed to be justice, irrespective of the decisions of the regular courts. It is at least fair warning to all who enter that country in future, that its legal institutions are practically powerless, though sitting under the protecting ægis of the great republic. In Egypt a question has arisen more nearly touching us and our commercial interests, in the form of a dispute between the Sultan and the Viceroy which at one time threatened to prevent altogether the proposed railway through Egypt. There is reason to believe, however, that the misunderstanding is already under process of accommodation; and that the question will be settled satisfactorily, without arms or bloodshed, by the ever ready and admirable aid of Sir Stratford Canning.

The intelligence from *France* relates chiefly to what is called a "Ministerial crisis." It appears that the President is resolved to obtain, if possible, the abrogation of the law of the 31st of May, which disfranchised three millions of voters, and that his ministers are not disposed to concur with him in this respect. The consequence has been that the whole cabinet have resigned, and their resignations have been accepted. They hold their offices *ad interim*, till their successors have been appointed. A new ministry has not yet been formed. The inspectors of the gendarmerie in the departments, it appears, have issued instructions to the brigadiers of these corps to draw up a list of the most energetic republicans, and to make notes upon the opinions and characters of the mayors.—The molestations to which private society is subjected in the departments, by the impertinence of the police, are all but incredible. M. Bagard, a councillor-general and wealthy proprietor of the Yonne, writes to the *Siccle* that as he was dining with a few friends at Jouy, on the 25th of September, after a shooting party, and not so much as dreaming of politics, a couple of gendarmes walked in, and, declaring that all parties (*réunions*) were prohibited, called on

them in the name of the law, which they were accused of violating, to give up their names, addresses, and so forth, and to disperse. Proceedings of this sort are said to be of daily occurrence.—The officious interference of the police with the Representative M. Sartin, at a private banquet in Sancerre, Department of the Cher, a week or two back, led to a tumultuous rising of the inhabitants of Sancerre, and another small village. The inhabitants resisted the ordinary authorities, and even placed themselves armed before a military force; in the course of a brief collision several were wounded, and some accounts say one or two were killed; but other journals deny these details, and accuse the Government organs of exaggerating the whole affair for its own purposes. The Government alleges that the particular outbreak is a consequence of a general state of disaffection and club organisation; and the *Moniteur* of the 22d inst. contained a decree placing the Departments of the Cher and the Nèvre under martial law.—The Bishop of Lucan has interdicted all newspapers being read in his diocese with the exception of the '*Univers*.' Certain books are also prohibited, among which are De Sacy's '*Translation of the New Testa-*

ment,' 'Robinson Crusoe,' the works of Sir Walter Scott, and those of Benjamin Franklin.

The finances of *Austria* are in a disastrous state. The *Gazette* of the 19th inst., gave the financial statement for the six months ending April 30; the later accounts are still withheld. The receipts were 104,387,712 florins; the expenses 146,889,867 florins; leaving a deficiency of 42,002,155 florins—about four millions sterling.—The Emperor of *Austria's* expedition to Lombardy has turned out a complete failure, and the military manœuvres also. The sudden state of the ground, owing to the heavy rains, rendered the projected operations impracticable. The troops were much discontented, and it became necessary to order them to their quarters. Some generals lost their baggage, several soldiers were hurt, and the whole movement resembled that of a routed army. The official accounts of the Emperor's enthusiastic reception are entirely false. An eye-witness describes the silence of the Milanese as terrifying. When the Emperor visited the theatre at Verona, only one Italian lady of distinction was present.—The Austrian Government, enraged at Kossuth's escape from its hands, has hanged him in effigy. On the morning of the 22nd of September, the names and effigies of the Hungarian fugitives were publicly executed, by hanging them in the market-place of Pesth, with all the dreadful solemnities which accompany the execution of a human being. The military were drawn out and formed into a square, within which there appeared the usual gallows. The officer in command read the sentence of the court-martial, according to which the enumerated persons were sentenced to death in effigy, having been tried in contumacious, and found guilty of high treason. The sentence having been read, the hangman was ordered to do his duty; which he did by hanging up a string of black boards, on which the names of the sentenced criminals were written—Kossuth, with Guyon, Perczel, Casimir Bathanyi, Count Teleki, and some thirty other companions.—The legal proceedings instituted by the government against all persons suspected of connexion with Mazzini have now terminated, after having lasted nearly six months. Government has failed to prove the assumed guilt of most of the persons, whom the police imprisoned during the past summer, and has been compelled, however unwillingly, to set them at liberty. Some, however, have compromised themselves sufficiently to procure their condemnation by the courts-martial, and the sentences against them were expected to be pronounced in a few days. Two have already been published; both inflicting punishment by death. Count Radetzky has, however, commuted the sentence on Vincenzo Mainace, a Milanese by birth, but formerly established in Venice as a print-seller and publisher, to ten years' fortification arrest. The second sentence, however, that on a young and wealthy individual, named Luigi Dottesio, who has been proved to have been active in concocting and disseminating revolutionary pamphlets, has been carried into effect, the efforts of his relations and friends, and even of the Podestà of Venice having proved unavailing.

A terrible catastrophe has taken place near Vienna. On the morning of the 15th the large powder magazine at Gneixendorf *Blew up*, causing much devastation and a melancholy loss of life. Three officers of artillery, the inspector of the magazine, the two sentinels on duty, and a little girl, the daughter of a labourer, were destroyed. The officers of artillery had only that instant reached the entrance to the magazine in a carriage, having been ordered by the military authorities to inspect and report upon the quantity and condition of the powder in the magazine. Their deaths must have been instantaneous, as the bodies were found completely crushed by the enormous masses of brick-work hurled from the building by the force of the explosion. Strange to say the carriage horses escaped entirely unhurt; the driver, however, is said to have received mortal injuries. Of the magazine itself not one stone remains standing; large portions of the brick-work, tiles, and beams, were hurled to a distance of more than 2000 yards. The vineyards and fields in the immediate neighbourhood

have suffered considerable damage. Two or three labourers in the fields received severe contusions from the descending ruins. In Gneixendorf, not a single window remains whole, and in Krems, which is more than three quarters of an hour's distance from the magazine, much damage has also been done. Several houses were dangerously shaken. The report of the explosion was heard in Vienna, thirty-five miles off.

The accounts from *Germany* speak of the military preparations now making in anticipation of events which may happen in France in 1852. The troops of all the German states are to be put on a full war establishment, and to be ready for immediate action early in the spring. The regiments and divisions quartered at present in the western garrisons are to be in readiness to form a junction on the shortest notice, and to advance towards the French frontier. The military equipments, which in Prussia were deficient on the last calling out of the army, are now quite complete, and everything is prepared for another general call to arms, or, as the Germans say, "mobilmachung." The western fortresses have received orders to be in readiness for war; and in all the military stores and war magazines of the kingdom the utmost activity prevails to provide every kind of supply.

The Prussian Minister of Justice has issued an order practically repealing the provisions of the Constitution of 1848, by which the Jews in Prussia were admitted to equality and the enjoyment of judicial offices. Those who have passed their examinations will be allowed to take employment in the administrative branches. The reason given for excluding the Jews again from law offices is, that a Jew cannot administer an oath to Christians.

A serious dispute has arisen between the *Pasha of Egypt and the Ottoman Porte*. The Pasha having contracted with Mr. Stephenson for the formation of a railway between Alexandria and Cairo, the Sultan has declared the contract null and void, as having been entered into without the authority of the Porte, and has intimated to the Pasha, that, in demanding the authorisation to construct this railway, the Pasha must prove that the annual revenues of Egypt show a sufficient surplus to meet the necessary expenses for the construction of the said railway; that new taxes will not be levied for that purpose; that the present taxes will not be increased; that the inhabitants will not be compelled to labour gratuitously; and, lastly, that no recourse shall be had to a loan, or to any foreign companies. From the last accounts from Constantinople, it appears likely that the matter will be satisfactorily settled on the above footing.

The dates from *New York* are to the 11th instant. Mr. Owen, the American Consul at Havannah, has been recalled, in consequence of his failing to interfere in behalf of the American prisoners, followers of General Lopez, captured and executed at Havannah. Owen has been removed. The delay in removing Mr. Owen arose from the necessity the Government was under of receiving an authentic official account of his conduct. The President was determined from the first to remove him if official information confirmed the newspaper reports of his procedure; and has written to him that his defence is entirely unsatisfactory.

Much excitement is caused by the pursuit and capture of *Runaway Slaves*. On the 30th of September an alleged fugitive slave, named Harrison, was arrested and brought into Buffalo, under a strong guard and handcuffed to two constables, so as to make a rescue more difficult. The coloured population were much excited, and followed the officers with their victim in great crowds from the boat to the goal. After a brief hearing the commissioner decided that he was a fugitive slave, and that he would make out an order for his return, after which he was ironed and taken to goal. The court-house was crowded with citizens, who made a show of resistance, but, after some slight skirmishing within and without the court-room, Harrison was safely lodged in goal. The negro is a mulatto, and about 19 years of age. When about being removed from the

court-room he said, "I would rather die than return to slavery."

A fugitive slave was arrested at Syracuse on Wednesday, October 1, and brought before the Commissioner for examination. The bells of the different churches commenced tolling, and handbills were distributed calling on the citizens to congregate and see a negro kidnapper. The Commissioner's office was soon crowded, and a rescue was successfully carried out. The negro was at once put on his way to Canada, and the agent of the claimant arrested for attempting to kidnap a citizen of the country. The slave was afterwards re-captured, and two military companies called out to guard him. Several white men were arrested for assisting the negro in his attempted flight. It being the county fair day, a large concourse of people surrounded the police-office, where the negro and the white men were undergoing an examination. About dusk the crowd began to throw stones into the window of the police-office pretty freely, which caused the adjournment of the court till eight o'clock the following morning. For a while after the adjournment, the crowd seemed to disperse; but at about half-past eight o'clock they began to break in the windows and doors, and thus made an entrance into the building, and carried off the negro. All sorts of weapons were used in the affray. Pistols were fired from both sides, and several persons were badly hurt from clubs and stones.

Accounts from Mexico state that the revolution in progress there has hitherto proved successful. It commenced at Camargo, where the patriots attacked the Mexicans. The patriots came off victorious, having taken the town by storm, with a loss on the side of the Mexicans of 60. The government troops were entrenched in a church, with artillery. The revolutionists are commanded by Carabajal, who has also with him two companies of Texans. At the last accounts they were marching on Matamoras and Reynosa. General Avalos, who is at Matamoras, has only 300 troops. He had made a requisition on the city for 2000, but the city refused to raise a single man. The plan of the revolutionists was a *pronunciamento*, which was widely circulated. Tampico and its vicinity was in the hands of the insurgents. The people of Matamoras were quietly awaiting the arrival of the liberating army.

Two terrible Executions by Lynch Law have taken place in California, the one at San Francisco, the other at Sacramento. The victims in the first place were two men, named Whitaker and Mackenzie, described as atrocious criminals. They had been rescued from the hands of the "Vigilance Committee" by the regular authorities, and had been lodged in prison. But the gaol was stormed by the multitude, and the criminals were taken out and again brought before the Committee, who ordered them for instant execution. We abridge the description of the scene, given by a San Francisco paper. From every ward in the city, and from the most remote suburban parts within the sound of the Vigilance bell, people came flocking, breathless and excited, to the scene of execution. The streets presented a scene of furious, mad disorder. Living masses surged down the byways, through the thoroughfares, and over the planked roads, until the tramp and roar of the multitude sounded like the beating of the waves upon shore. Every moment the crowd grew more intense, and the pulse of the excited populace beat higher. Montgomery Street poured its tide of human masses into California Street, and California emptied its living contents, like a mighty river, upon the spot where the prisoners had been taken by their captors. Here are the Vigilance Committee Chambers—two large frame houses, ranged side by side, of two-story construction, their "gable ends" fronting Battery Street, in the block between California and Pine Streets. The lower floors of these buildings are occupied as stores; the upper apartments are the Vigilance chambers, and have each heavy double doors, opening upon Battery Street, above which project timbers and pulleys, such as are used in store-locks for the purpose of hoisting goods from the ground. The Committee had assembled, and were preparing to execute justice upon the criminals! A carriage dashed

round the corner and up California Street. It was greeted with cheer after cheer. The driver stood up in his box, waved his hat, and huzzaed in reply. This was the carriage in which the prisoners had been carried off from the county gaol, and which was now returning from the committee rooms. Heads were thrust forth from the windows all along the line of the street in which the crowd was gathered. Women were crushed between the restless, swaying bodies of the more rugged portion of animal life. A confused, busy hum of low voices pervaded the air, and might have been heard blocks distant. Still the crowd increased. Members of the Vigilance Committee, arriving on the ground, after jostling through the dense mass of human beings, found the passage to the chambers completely blocked up and closed, the doors being fastened inside, so as to resist the pressure from without. In the southern chamber a rope had been "reeved" through the block attached to the beam above the left door, and several members, appearing at the fall, lowered the rope to their comrades below, and swung them up from the ground, thus giving them access to the committee. Twelve minutes had elapsed since the alarm was sounded on the fire-bell, when the door of the northern chamber opened, a few members appeared without their coats, and addressed a few words to the heaving, surging masses below. The din of human voices that arose completely drowned the speakers' words. It was understood that the capture of the prisoners was announced. Cries of "Hang them up!" "Now and here!" ensued, and the tumult and noise each moment grew greater. A member of the committee waved his hand, significant of assent to the proposition, and in a momentary lull we could catch the remark, hurriedly and energetically made, "We have them—never fear—it is all right!" and a thundering shout of wild congratulation announced that the people below were as fully bent upon witnessing justice done as their representatives in the chambers above. A few of the committee then dashed out the glass above the door of the southern chamber, and one of their number mounted into the opening, holding one end of a rope. Dexterously clinging to the clapboards on the outside, he managed to pass the rope through the block, and returned with the two ends to the floor. Both doors of the committee-rooms were then closed, the fatal ropes inside. Ten thousand faces were upturned, and every eye was fixed upon the doors of the committee chambers. The vast concourse was stilled almost to the hush of death; but this was only for a few seconds. Two minutes only had passed after the ropes were drawn in, and already the crowd showed symptoms of impatience. The first murmur had scarcely arisen, however, when the doors of both chambers were simultaneously jerked open, presenting to view each of the prisoners, half surrounded at each door by members of the committee. A terrific shout rent the air. The multitude tossed to and fro—above all, amid all, calmly but sternly stood the band of the Brothers of Vigilance, and in their hands the fainting, drooping, gasping criminals, their arms pinioned and their feet secured. The rope was about their necks, their coats having been removed, and they stood aghast and trembling in the brief second of lifetime allowed them to confront the stormy sea of human beings spread far out below them. Another second of time and they were tossed far out into space, and drawn like lightning up to the beam's end. Both were executed at one and the same instant, the signal being given throughout the chambers, and the members rushing back with the rope until the culprits each had been dragged to the block, and hung almost motionless by the neck. While they were hanging the crowd below vented in whispers, and some of the more thoughtless in shouts, their approval. One or two of the committee very indecorously appeared at the threshold from which the poor wretches had the instant before passed into eternity, and seemed to recognise acquaintances among the populace, exhibiting very little reverence for the sacredness and solemnity of death, to say the least. The bodies being cut down, a coroner's inquest was held upon them, and the jury found a verdict, that Samuel Whitaker and Robert Mackenzie came to their death by being hanged by the neck, thereby producing strangulation, by the act of a body of

citizens styling themselves the Vigilance Committee of San Francisco, on the afternoon of Sunday, August 24, at about three o'clock, in front of the Vigilance Committee Room, on Battery Street, near California Street, from the second story thereof.—At Sacramento, three highwaymen, named Gibson, Thompson, and Robinson, had been condemned to death, and the time of their execution was fixed. Robinson, however, was reprieved by Governor Macdougall, on which the multitude determined that Robinson should be executed along with his companions. On the day appointed, immense crowds assembled, and after venting their indignation against the governor, took forcible possession of Robinson, and carried him to the place of execution. Gibson and Thompson were executed under the regular legal authority, the vast crowd of spectators remaining perfectly quiet. At the moment their bodies were cut down, cries were heard, "Now for Robinson," "Hang the scoundrel!" "Bring him here!" "Let him hang too!" The

scene which followed was the most terrific we ever witnessed. The thronging crowds rushed for the station-house in the greatest excitement, and on all sides was heard the same thrilling cry, "Hang the rascal!" A gentleman came forward upon the platform, and announced that Robinson was on the ground, and as soon as the bodies of Gibson and Thompson were cut down, would be brought forward to meet his doom. The sheriff and his officers retired from the scene, and the victim was brought forward. The crowd gave way, and the Committee, with their prisoner, slowly ascended the scaffold, while the guards formed a hollow square round it. He made an incoherent address to the multitude; a clergyman prayed for him fervently, and he was hurried into eternity, the President of the Committee performing the function of executioner. During the scene, says the local newspaper, "business was entirely suspended—the streets were deserted—the city was at the scaffold."

NARRATIVE OF LITERATURE AND ART.

THE promoters of the meeting which was held some months ago to protest against Lord Campbell's construction of the English copyright law in favour of the foreign author, have issued a statement in which they seem to abandon that more limited view of the question, and profess their desire to unite all whom the subject in any way interests in an endeavour "to secure an equitable adjustment of the general law of copyright, but especially to promote international copyright." In such views and exertions all who are engaged in literature ought heartily to coöperate. There can be no question that unmitigated evil has arisen from the conflicting state of the copyright law, almost ever since the acts were passed; and that hardly a violation of property or property has been committed, without some kind of sanction from one or other of the legal tribunals. At first the disagreement was between Law and Equity, but more recently all the common law courts themselves have fallen to loggerheads; and in regard to our English law of copy at least, there seems to be hardly a hope of any satisfactory settlement of the points in dispute without a special act of the legislature. But the society must be careful not to ask at the same time for any clauses having solely in view a compulsory action on other countries. International copyright is not to be obtained by such means. *Fiat justitia.* That is all we have any right to claim. We may not force others to be just by being ourselves unjust.

The most interesting book of the month is Mr. Carlyle's *Life of John Sterling*, and other works of pretension have come to dispel the dullness of the non-publishing season. The professor of the classics in King's College, Mr. Browne, has commenced a *History of Classical Literature*; the first part of an able translation of the entire *Comedy of Dante* in the ternary rhymes of the original (not well adapted, we must remark, to the genius of our English tongue) has appeared; Mr. George Long and Mr. Maclean have ventured on a new edition of the original Greek and Latin authors, under the title of *Bibliotheca Classica*, of which Cicero's orations form the first part; Mr. Francis has issued two portly volumes of a *History of the English Railway*; the Exhibition Contractors have sent forth their *Illustrated Catalogue* in three glittering octavos; and in the same number of volumes, though of more sober appearance and hue, a Scotch divine has published an *Exposition of the Gospel according to Saint Luke* which recalls the laborious and elaborate theology of the days of Solemn League and Covenant.

Beside these graver publications there has been a great gathering of voyages and travels. The Rev. Henry Cheever, an American, gives us *Life in the Sandwich Islands*: a countryman of his, Mr. Herman Melville, relates more of the ocean experiences of his Types and Omoos in a motley book called *The Whale*; another countryman, the Rev. Mr. Cotton, tells us all the incidents of a cruise with an American frigate to California, in a dirty little volume, entitled *Deck and Port*; and Mr. Pridham excites his readers by announcing *Kossuth and the Magyar Land* as the title of a book which contains not very much of either. We have also had a *Naturalist's Sojourn in Jamaica*, from the pen of Mr. Philip Gosse; a description of *Seinde*, as the Unhappy Valley, by Lieut. Burton of the Bombay army; some very clever and valuable *Recollections of Manila and the Philippines*, by Mr. McMicking, a practical

merchant; and a view of *Spain as it is*, by Mr. Hoskins, not an unpractised traveller.

To these we have to add some books of general interest. A Sheffield gentleman, Mr. Holland, has published *Memorials of Chantrey the Sculptor*, of which some future biographer will be able to make good use; Mr. Grant has written the *Life of Sir John Hepburn*, one of the Scotch soldiers of Gustavus Adolphus; Mr. Thompson has opened up the old question of reason and instinct in a curious volume on the *Passions of Animals*, the illustrated Christmas books have paid us their first visit in an elaborately illuminated volume by Mr. Humphries, called the *Sentiments and Similes of Shakspeare*; Mr. Chenevix Trench has published five very thoughtful and suggestive lectures on the *Study of Words*; and Dr. Latham and Professor Craik have brought out respectively two books with something of a similar aim, the one a *Handbook of the English Language for the Use of Students of the Universities and Higher Classes of Schools*, and the other *Outlines of the History of the English Language for the Use of the Junior Classes in Colleges and the Higher Classes in Schools*; both volumes well deserving of attention.

Finally, there has been no lack of novels—prominent among which may be mentioned Mrs. Trollope's *Mrs. Matthews, or Family Mysteries*; a tale called the *Livingstones*; a story with the name of *Lady Arice*; an autobiography of *Florence Sackville, or Self-Dependence*, by Mrs. Burbury; and a single volume from the author of *Rockingham* on the fate of *Cecil the Pervert*.

Two American children, Kate and Ellen Bateman, have appeared at the St. James's, and attracted great notice by their singular precocity.

COMMERCIAL RECORD.

BANKRUPTS.

From the Gazette of Sept. 30th. J. BASSET, High-street, Shore-ditch, hotel-keeper.—W. HAYHOW, Ratcliff-highway, boot-maker.—W. M. WHALLEY, South Mimms, victualler.—W. W. HOLMAN, Bath, draper.—P. M. HADLEY, Cardiff, corn-merchant.—J. WILLIAMS, Cadenton juxta Neath, iron-master.—G. M. BASS, Louth, grocer, and J. HERVOUR, Liverpool, provision-merchants.

Oct. 3rd. H. LEWIS, Wellingborough, linen-draper.—W. H. ORAM and W. HEARD, Noble-street, traders.—I. HAYES, St. John's-lane, Clerkenwell, stereotype-founder.—N. WELCH, Sedgley, Staffordshire, iron-manufacturer.—W. and M. PLAISTER, Bristol, cheese-factors.—J. HODGES, Bristol, carpenter.—J. STEVENSON, Liverpool, merchant.—W. GREEN, jun., Higher Trannere, Cheshire, brewer.—T. M. HARRIS, Liverpool, shipowner.—W. CRANKSHAW, Colne, cotton-spinner.

Oct. 7th. J. and W. MEANE, Brighton, brewers.—W. HOUSEMAN, Brighton, money-server.—W. HARTIDGE, Milton-next-Sittingbourne, Kent, draper.—W. S. WHATFORD, Brighton, dentist.—T. B. HASLEY, Warwickshire, miller.—W. COX, Smithwick, Staffordshire, iron-manufacturer.—J. ALLAN, Carmarthen, tea-dealer.—J. WHITEHEAD and R. COTTAM, now or late of Blackburn, machine-makers.

Sept. 10th. W. W. BRAGGER and R. BRAGGER, jun., Camberwell-green, dealers in hosiery.—F. DAWSON, Great Yarmouth, draper.—H. M'COLL, South Shields, bookseller.

Oct. 13th. J. and E. LEACH, Waterbeach, builders.—E. RUTHERDON, Mill Wall, ship-builder.—J. M. WILSON, Eton, bookseller.—E. JONES, Church-street, Blackfriars-road, carrier.—S. SUELOCK, Liverpool, wine-merchant.—J. REIN, Huddersfield, merchant.—W. WILLIAMS and Co, Newport, Monmouthshire, bankers.

Oct. 17th. G. F. NIBBOUR, Slough, music-seller.—J. MARRIOTT, Gracechurch-street, oilman.—G. LAWS, Waltham Abbey, linen-draper.—J. WHITAKER and J. CROWTHER, Buslingthorpe, Yorkshire, dyers.—W. T. ADCOCK, Manchester, hotel-keeper.

Oct. 21st. E. CAIRNS, Newport, Monmouthshire, corn-merchant.—C. COOPER, High-street, Wandsworth, grocer.—J. DEANE, Liverpool, chemist.—J. DOVE, Leeds, carrier.—G. HAYNES, Leek, Staffordshire, dealer.—E. S. HOWARD and T. STONE, Norwich, builders.—R. W. JEARAD, jun., Oxford-street, carpenter.—J. MARRIOTT, Gracechurch-street, City, Italian-warehouseman.—G. F. NIBBOUR, Slough, Buckinghamshire, music-seller.—J. SYKES, jun., Sowerby, Yorkshire, tea-dealer.—R. TILL, Worcester, grocer.

Oct. 24th. E. EVANS, Paddington-green, nurseryman.—F. CASTLELL, Brye-court, St. Mary Axe, merchant.—H. BROOME, Haymarket, victualler.—J. S. DAVIS, Dalby-terrace, City-road, dealer in jewellery.—E. W. GERRILL, Ramsgate, cabinet-maker.—W. T. ADCOCK, Manchester, Hotel-keeper.—J. HOWARD, Macclesfield, silk-manufacturer.—J. MACBURNIS, Exeter, draper.—J. C. BEATON, Martock, Somersetshire, glover.—E. FRAGUE, jun., East Dean, Gloucestershire, grocer.—M. LEES, Halifax, woollen-manufacturer.—J. Y. SMITH, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, ship-broker.

Oct. 28th. S. S. BUCKNOLE, Castle Cary, Somersetshire, draper.—T. COMBERE, Aylesford, Kent, and Cleveland-street, Mile-end, paper-maker.—J. CUTTS, Wolverhampton, Staffordshire, grocer.—J. GRIMBLE, Sydney-square, Whitechapel, builder.—J. R. IRVING and W. IRVING, Liverpool, shipwrights.—J. JOHNSON, Wolsdon, Warwickshire, coal-dealer.—S. MAYOR, Liverpool, ship-chandler.—H. PAMMENT, Penton-street, Pentonville, cheese-monger.—G. PRIM and S. PRIM, Birkenhead, Cheese, merchants.—J. SMITH, Altringham, Cheshire, joiner.—C. WALKER, Basinghall-street, City, and Leeds, woollen cloth manufacturer.

BANKRUPTCIES ANNULLED.

Oct. 6th. T. FISHER, Gower-street, Bedford-square, and Tottenham-street, Tottenham-court-road, pianoforte-manufacturer.

Oct. 13th. J. HARVEY, Gravesend, timber-merchant.
J. W. GORDON, Cullum-street, City, and Church-row, Limehouse, wine-merchant.

MONEY MARKET.

The business during the month in the public Funds, and in Railway, and other shares, has been very limited, and subject to little fluctuation. In Foreign Securities the same thing has been the case. Even the French *rentes* have been scarcely affected by the Ministerial Crisis.

STOCKS.

	Highest.	Lowest.	Latest.
Three per Cent. Consols . . .	97½	96½	97½
Three per Cent. Reduced . . .	96½	96	96½
Three and a quarter per Cents..	98½	97½	98½
Long Annuities, Jan. 1800 . . .	7	6½	6½
Bank Stock, 7 per cent.	214½	211½	214½
India Stock, ex. div.	262½	260	262½
Exchequer Bills £1000	54	43	53
India Bonds under £1000	63s. prm.	47s. prm.	63s. prm.

FOREIGN FUNDS—LATEST PRICES.

Brazilian 5 per cent, 91½	Peruvian 5 per cent, 90½
Buenos Ayres 6 per cent, 56	Portuguese 4 per cent, 32½
Danish 3 per cent, 102½	Russian 4½ per cent, 101½
Dutch 4 p. c. certificates, 90	Spanish 3 per cent, acc., 38½
Mexican 5 per cent, 26½	

Paid.	RAILWAYS.	Highest.	Lowest.	Latest.
100	Brighton and South Coast.	94½	93½	92½
100	Bristol & Exeter	80½	77½	79
	all Blackwall	7	6½	6½
50	Caledonian	12½	11½	11½
20	Eastern Counties	63	61	6
50	Edinburgh and Glasgow . . .	27	26	27
all	Great Northern	16½	15½	15½
100	Great Western	83½	81	81½
100	Lancashire and Yorkshire . . .	55½	54½	54½
100	Midland	48½	47	48½
25	North British	6	5½	5½
100	North-Western	117	113½	114
30	South-Eastern and Dover . . .	19½	13	18½
100	South-Western	84	81½	82
25	York, Newc., and Berwick . . .	18½	17½	18½
50	York and North Midland . . .	19½	18½	19½

FOREIGN RAILWAYS—LATEST PRICES.

Boulogne and Amiens, 10½	Paris & Orleans, 35
Dutch Rhinish, 5½	Paris and Rouen, 22½
East Indian, 24 p.	Paris and Strasbourg, 6½
Namur and Liege, 6½	Rouen and Havre, 8½ ex. d.
Northern of France, 14½	Tours and Nantes, 9½ dis.

CORN MARKET—LONDON WEEKLY AVERAGES.

Wheat, per qr., 37s. 6d.; Oats, 18s. 4d.; Rye, 26s.; Beans, 28s. 6d.; Peas, 28s. 2d.; Flour (town made), delivered, per 250 lbs., 40s. to 42s. 6d.; American, per barrel of 196 lbs., 23s. to 25s.

PROVISIONS—LATEST WHOLESALE PRICES.

Bacon, per cwt.—Waterford, 42s. to 53s.; Belfast, 42s. to 44s.	Eggs, per 120, English, 6s. 3d. to 7s.
Beef, per 8 lbs., mid. to prime, 2d. 6d. to 3s. 8d.	Hams, per cwt.—York or Cumberland, 74s. to 84s.; Irish, 30s. to 62s.; Westphalia, 44s. to 50s.
Butter, per cwt.—Carlisle, 1st, 74s. to 82s.; Waterford, 1st, 72s. to 76s.; Dutch Friesland, 90s. to 94s.; Limerick, 1st, 66s. to 71s.	Mutton, per 8 lbs., 2s. 10d. to 4s.
Cheese, per cwt., Cheshire, 50s. to 70s.; Wiltshire, double, 40s. to 44s.; Dutch, new Gouda, 26s. to 29s.; American, 38s. to 44s.	Pork, per 8 lbs., 3s. to 3s. 8d.
	American, new, per barrel, 46s. to 55s.
	Veal, per 8 lbs., 2s. 8d. to 3s. 8d.
	Potatoes, per ton.—Kent and Essex Ware, 42s. to 75s.; Kent and Essex Middling, 25s. to 45s.; Chats, 20s. to 25s.

GROCERY—LATEST WHOLESALE PRICES.

Cocoa, per cwt. Ord. to good red Trinidad, 42s. to 50s.; Bahia, 26s. to 28s.	Sago, per cwt.—Pearl, 15s. to 18s.
Coffee, per cwt.—Good ord., native Ceylon, 40s. 6d. to 78s.; Mocha, 78s. to 88s.; St. Domingo, 38s. to 40s.; Sumatra, 36s. to 38s.	Sugar, per cwt.—British West India, 37s. to 39s.; Mauritius, brown, 37s. to 44s.; Brazil, 27s. to 28s.
Rice, per cwt.—Bengal mid. to fine white, 8s. 6d. to 10s. 6d.; Madras, 7s. 6d. to 9s.	Tea, per lb. (duty 2d.)—Ord. Congou, 9d. to 9½d.; Sou-chong, com. to fine, 10d. to 2s.; ord. to fine Hyson, 1s. to 1s. 6d.; Imperial, 1s. to 2s. 6d.

Candles, per 12 lbs. 4s. 6d. to 5s. | Coals, per ton, 15s. 3d. to 15s. 9d.

OILS.

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THE
HOUSEHOLD NARRATIVE
OF CURRENT EVENTS.

1851.]

FROM THE 29TH OCTOBER TO THE 26TH NOVEMBER.

[PRICE 2d.

THE THREE KINGDOMS.

THE transition to activity and interest from leisure and indifference has seldom been more marked than at the close of the long vacation of '51. Wearied out of patience with the Pope and his Cardinals, tired to death of the Great Exhibition, there suddenly sprung up in the very nicety of time a variety of subjects to satisfy the public craving. We have had the great leader of the Magyars preaching his crusade throughout our cities. We have had the new law of Evidence put upon its trial in our Courts. We have had Mr. Edwards, Mr. Blagg, Mr. Coppock, and Mr. Blanks set up in a pillory at St. Albans. The new Lord Mayor has gone to Westminster attended by no less than five-and-twenty men in armour; and the old Lord Mayor has been pitilessly "sat upon" by a whole court of belligerent aldermen. Rumours of outbreaks and revolutions have been floating over the Continent with every breeze; while the wires of the electric telegraph, at last safely submerged in the waters of the Channel, have been flashing messages of peace between the shores of Calais and Dover.

Far above those messages of peace, however, have risen for the moment the war-notes of the Hungarian exile. The eloquence of M. Kossuth has been acting as a charm. All within whose reach it came have been listening without thought of what its glowing periods aimed at, until the apostles of universal peace have found themselves unexpectedly assisting at what would probably, if successful, inaugurate a general war. Even now that the eloquent hero has departed, and Mr. Gilpin no longer rides in his chariot, and Mr. Cobden's unadorned periods mingle no more with his thrilling invocations, and Mr. Bright's denunciations of bribery thunder no longer in the ears of his opponents, public opinion is left strangely divided as to the moral results of his oratorical crusade. Desiring rather with a strict impartiality to describe, than for the future to take any active share in promoting, this eager conflict of opinion, let us make the attempt, in this place, to discriminate its leading phases.

His welcome from particular sections of the extreme liberal party has been hearty and unmisgiving throughout. They have accepted his visit as the practical announcement of the advent of a new era in the history of Europe. They say that its result has exhibited an eagerness in the people, which must react with great force upon the government, to be no longer content with offering a silent sympathy to the struggles for freedom which have convulsed Europe, and affected even the empire of Asia. As a direct consequence of this feeling they anticipate the most formidable alliance which the continental despots have yet seen banded against them. In the vote of the American Congress in favour of M. Kossuth, in the vessel sent to convey him from the shore of his captivity, in the preparations throughout the Union for a reception such as no man since Lafayette has found awaiting him, they discover certain signs of a power about to enter the European field of politics sufficient to balance even the colossal weight of Russia. In short, the somewhat feeble help which England has heretofore been able to give to continental liberty, is now to be strengthened and made thoroughly efficacious by sturdy alliance with her transatlantic cousin. There is thus to be a combination of all the members of the Anglo-Saxon race, on behalf of the old Saxon principles of self-government; and as a proof that this sympathy of the American people for European liberty actually prevails, and is ready to show itself in act as well as word, an old and most distinguished member of the American Congress has appeared at M. Kossuth's banquets to denounce the tyranny of Russia, to warn England that she is not safe in the neighbourhood of a coalition of European despots, to foreshadow the nobler alliance of two great and kindred nations, and to offer the right hand of American fellowship to that large party of English Liberals who are willing to undergo every risk for the maintenance and extension of constitutional freedom. The party of whose opinions we speak have accepted all the later speeches of M. Kossuth as but a glowing commentary on this great text. They regard it as his primary distinction to have perceived the approach of a fact so enormous, to have acted upon it, and to have shaped his studies and exertions to its realisation. That such a drawing up of all the peoples of Europe, for the first time in history, in array against all the kings, is an awful spectacle to anticipate, they do not deny; nor do they affect to conceal their profound regret at such a crisis being imminent; but they believe it to have been solely occasioned by the crimes and blunders of the old governments themselves, and they hold that it never can be safely dealt with by supporting the pretensions of those governments to re-establish the now old and effete regimes of courtierdom, soldierdom, and policedom, over millions who have become alive to their sufferings, their rights, their numbers, and their power. When M. Kossuth has told them, therefore, that in Hungary, in Germany, in Italy, and in France, the peoples want but a favourable opportunity to rise simultaneously against oppression, they who hold these opinions do not shrink from the conclusion that the time is near at hand for that practical alliance of America and England which can alone operate as the *stop* to Russia and her barbarians; and they revel in the hope, as Mr. Bright expressed it in Manchester, of "a glorious resurrection of the trampled nations." But at the same time, being many of them members of the Peace Society, they are not without expectation that the mere fact of the alliance may suffice for the resurrection, and that all which needs to be done may be done by the exertion of diplomacy.

Up to this point, the party of which we have been speaking carry the more intelligent of the Chartist leaders with them. These men have enjoyed heartily M. Kossuth's dry rejection of Mr. Feargus O'Connor's overflowing "love;" and, in consideration of his having decisively pronounced, not only for a republic with

universal suffrage as the only thing henceforth possible in Europe, but also generally for the holy brotherhood of peoples and the solidarity of nations (so run the phrases now in vogue with them), they have forgiven him his not less decisive rejection of socialism. But their voices are loud for war. They told M. Kossuth in their address, that could they have had their wishes while the struggle was yet going on, the intervention of Russia would not have been met alone by protests upon paper, but upon the field of action by the force of British arms; so much the more, therefore, are they now eager for that extremity, when it comes to them fraught not alone with the chances of freedom for Hungary, but with the certainty of a European revolution that will alter all the destinies of the world, and carry all the points of the charter. It is somewhat curious that the only part of the population that in some sort shares these extreme opinions, yet has resolutely withheld from any shows of agreement with the immediate object of their homage, is that very part which was itself most recently on the verge of rebellion. Ireland has offered no sympathy to M. Kossuth. The Young Irelanders have been coldly arguing on his merits, while the Old Irelanders openly denounced him. The organ of that section of the latter which speaks most directly at the bidding of the priests, marked him at once with the sign of the beast, as a conspirator against his Holiness the Pope. It proclaimed him to be a kind of smaller Cromwell, without his military genius, and without his practical sincerity. It discovered a parallel to Jellachich fighting against him, in the old Irish chieftains fighting against our English Commonwealth; and would of course complete the parallel by comparing the coalition of the Ban and the Emperor in 1849, to that of the Irish Confederation and Charles the First in 1641. To this organ of public opinion M. Kossuth appears the frantic disturber, and the Emperor of all the Russias the true pacificator, of Europe. Nor does it scruple to sum up finally, and in one fatal word, the arch-agitator's crime. His object is to *protestantise* Hungary; and such a diabolical object would of course render any man, capable of entertaining it, capable also of fraternising with any party or principle able to render him, or even promise him, any service. Which would fully account for M. Kossuth being anti-jesuit with Exeter Hall, socialist with the Socialists, red republican with the Romans and French, constitutional with the English monarchists, destructive of local privileges and independence with the inhabitants of Croatia, and municipal with the corporations of England.

Participating somewhat in this view of the great Hungarian's versatility, but objecting to him on larger grounds, the more important class of his opponents now come within view. They admit the extraordinary cleverness, the wonderful tact he has displayed; but they question altogether his moral pretensions; accuse him of reckless designs of personal ambition; denounce his plans as of the deepest die of red revolution; and, in regard to Hungary, express their belief that it was his violent innovations which rendered her old constitution no longer possible; and that, but for his inveterate assaults on the integrity of the monarchy, the country never would have undergone the miseries of foreign intervention. This party holds that the best blood and talents of Hungary were alienated from the side of Kossuth when he pronounced the formal deposition of the House of Hapsburg; and that when, yet earlier in the struggle, he relieved the peasantry from the robot, or obligation of personal service, it was done far less as an expedient of statesmanship, than as a republican declaration of the rights of man. Hence they accuse him of a purposed design, from the first, to dismember the empire; they say it was to maintain his own supremacy, in and by the revolution, that he forced matters to the last extremity; and they assert that, but for this design, the liberties of Hungary might have been secured, and her constitution established on a permanent basis. Then, as to his present crusade for a general European rising, which they declare to be now his only chance of being ever recalled to Hungary, they meet this by arguments addressed chiefly to those members of the Peace Society who so precipitately enlisted under his banners. They say that England has already had considerable experience on the subject of intervention in foreign countries, for the purpose of establishing what she calls order and freedom, propagating constitutional ideas, adjusting balances of power, and reforming mankind generally after her own English model. For example, they point out that she interfered to deliver France from Bonaparte; that she interfered to restore Italy to the Pope; that she helped largely to restore the Peninsula to its legitimate possessors; that she has successively subsidised and assisted, not simply the smaller continental states, but Russia herself, Austria, and Prussia; that she interfered to give liberty to Greece, and bless her with a king that has hated us ever since; that she interfered to save Turkey from being swallowed up by Mehemet Ali; that she interfered to give Belgium to the King of Holland, and afterwards to take her away again and make her independent; and that in short it is difficult to say where she has not interfered, what Government she has not thwarted or befriended, what people she has not backed up against their ruler, what ruler she has not assisted against his subjects. And then they ask what she has to show for it all?—which brings in some rather long-faced figures. Of twelve hundred millions spent on "national defences" alone during the last century, it turns out that more than half are swallowed up by the single item of a fourteen years' actual war; and of some fifty additional millions paid in the way of subsidies during twenty-two years of this period, it appears that our foreign allies received upwards of thirty millions during the ten years before Bonaparte's final defeat. Nor did even such sacrifices, by which we have hampered ourselves with centuries of debt, make friends of those we would have served. What we would have permanently established, already has passed away; and nowhere are we so unpopular, with peoples or with courts, from none do we so frequently receive contempt or insult, as from those former recipients of our costly and heroic bounty. From all which the inference follows that it would be madness to plunge into another long revolutionary war, of which the issues would be wholly beyond our own control, for the uncertain aim of assisting another country to those privileges of constitutional freedom which she would in all probability employ, like the rest, in disregarding our counsels, insulting our countrymen, and dismissing our ministers.

Such are the various opinions called forth by the Kossuth crusade, and to these we have to add yet another class, in some respects distinct from all that have been cited, yet likely to be not unimportant in determining what amount of enduring influence may outlive the temporary excitement be awakened. Within this range of opinion fall those who have sympathised throughout with the resistance of Hungary as a constitutional struggle, who think her existence still possible as a monarchy with liberal institutions, and who are not yet disposed to see these chances merged in a general European conflict between the rival powers of Absolutism and Freedom. They admit the genius and capacity of the great leader of the Hungarians, but they are startled by his versatility, and somewhat doubt his straight-forwardness. In common with all the world, they appear to have been charmed by his first speeches at Winchester and Southampton. The wonderful power he had acquired in his Eastern prison of expressing himself in English; the moderation of his tone;

the absence of all exaggerated declamation; the strictly constitutional character of his views; and above all, the unanswerable case he made out for Hungary; satisfied them too thoroughly, not to leave them very much unprepared for the marked change that speedily ensued. This change took them wholly by surprise. But whether sought to be accounted for by the disappointment which M. Kossuth is said to have felt at the coldness of his reception by the English aristocracy (whose favours are apt to run in quite other and less respectable directions), by the fact of the present movement in France seeming to offer new chances for the success of extreme democracy, or by the very distinctions even in the character of the assemblies successively addressed acting on the susceptibility of a man of his nervous temperament, the principles announced in those later speeches he left uncontradicted to the last, and by them it became necessary to judge him. So tested, he no longer appeared to represent fairly the Hungarian cause, which, if connected with such doctrines from the first, would in their judgment have failed to attract a tithe of the sympathy won over to it in England, and which therefore they would again disconnect as soon as may be. To this end they do not scruple to remind M. Kossuth that the deposition of the House of Hapsburg was passed by the diet of Debretzen, in which a large part of Hungary was not represented; that a considerable number of the deputies were strongly opposed to that act; and that the rest were only induced to adopt it by such representations of its urgent necessity, and of the strong desire of the army for its completion, as the facts afterwards belied. They remind him also of the discontent with which the news of the deposition was received by the army, and the more intelligent classes throughout the country, while both yet continued strenuously bent on asserting their constitutional demands against all the power that could be collected to oppose them. Nay, they go so far as to believe, that, even when the war had been brought to its iniquitous close, could but the Austrian Government have been induced to confirm what it had formerly granted, and reinstate the diet and the country in their rights, great as his oratory and administrative talents had been, the name of M. Kossuth would no more have been remembered save as that of an infinitely able but sadly restless politician, who had troubled the country's peace and sacrificed her welfare to visions of independence which he had not the means to carry out, and in behalf of which he had sacrificed so many thousands of lives, while he had shown no remarkable readiness to imperil his own. But Messrs. Schwartzberg and Bach had not the sense to see this. The policy they have pursued has been as though purposely designed to justify the assertion that never again should Hungary acknowledge the house of Hapsburg. They have heaped on her, fallen as she was, every indignity that could possibly have been suggested by cruelty and fear; and this wretched policy, basely and unshrinkingly pursued, has again made M. Kossuth's name a rallying point for discontent, a spectre at whose mention Austria grows pale. Yet, great as this oppression has been, and weighty as are the wrongs under which Hungary is groaning, signs nevertheless appear to show themselves, in the judgment of the class of thinkers of which we speak, that not even yet has the old monarchal and constitutional spirit been trampled out of Hungary. Even little circumstances accompanying the late appointment of the Arch-Duke Albrecht as governor seem to them significant. The renewed use of the word *kingdom* in place of *crownland*, the sight of their national colours, the resumption of the national dress, the hope implied in these paltry concessions that a constitutional government may one day still be restored, and the amount of popularity that has greeted the Arch-Duke in consequence, are to these thinkers as the small straws thrown up to show the current of the wind. Still they have an instinct that any such anticipations are but desperate after all; and nothing would satisfy them so much, and nothing appear so hopeful for the future, as the awakening of M. Kossuth from what appear to be his present dreams of Urquhartism and Republicanism, and his return once more to that clear-sighted leadership of the Constitutional cause for which his genius qualifies him beyond any other Hungarian. They grudge him none of the enthusiasm that has attended him here, remembering how much and how unjustly he has suffered in a righteous struggle; and remembering also what a heavy debt England still owes his country, in having allowed the intervention of Russia against her without a protest or attempt to save her.

The reader amid these labyrinths of opinion will probably have no great difficulty in finding that which is most in accordance with his own; and he will have still less difficulty, in this respect, in following us to St. Albans. Here the case admits of no difference of judgment whatever. The revelations are disgraceful to all parties; and singularly disgraceful to the reformers, if a distinction is to be made at all. But really, as one of the witnesses candidly remarked, political parties are so merged in money matters at St. Albans that it is almost impossible to trace them. It is no longer to be denied, however, that the money matters at least have been clearly traced, and the gold found sticking everywhere. The one party has at the same time in such matters so much more reputation, or pretence to it, to lose than the other, that it is manifest where the damage has most heavily fallen. Indeed it is not disguised by men of ultra-liberal views that there is not one of their candidates who is not likely to suffer, at the next election, from the doubts and jealousies awakened by these disclosures. The chance of safety for all parties now rests on the anticipated Reform Bill, which, at last, bids fair to be no party question; and should the gratifying spectacle present itself next session, of Mr. Disraeli outbidding Lord John in the way of pledges for future electoral purity, the country will have no small reason to be grateful to those two thousand five hundred sovereigns which Mr. Jacob Bell so worthily represents in the imperial parliament.

Public opinion does not appear as yet to be quite made up as to the working of the new law of Evidence. The commitments for perjury are so frequent as to be somewhat startling; juries naturally wince a little under the sense of an increased responsibility; and judges are notoriously indisposed to what is novel or newfangled, especially when it brings with it duties also new and painful. On the other hand, the advocates of the measure assert that the frequent perjury exhibited by its means is perjury that already existed in all such cases, and was invariably practised to the advantage of the wrong-doer. Thus the only change effected by it, is that what used to be secret and successful, is now discovered, baffled, and punished. Still the open exhibition of the disregard of oaths, though really less immoral than the less direct and more flourishing practices it replaced, acts as such a painful jar to public feeling, that it has again brought in question the value of administering oaths at all in our courts of justice; and while it is admitted that much has been unquestionably gained by bringing plaintiff and defendant to tell their respective stories orally in open court, and expose themselves to cross-examination, it is suggested that this advantage might be equally attained by simply obliging the counter-statements to be made without the intervention of an oath, and affixing instant penalties of fine or imprisonment to the discovery of falsehood. It is argued that by thus punishing the

violation of truth as a temporal offence, the penalty might be proportioned to the temptation, and greater security obtained for the veracity of witnesses; whereas the opportunity of doing this is lost by making the offence spiritual, and subject of course to no gradations of punishment, whether the sum of the temptation be a hundred pence or a hundred pounds. But it cannot on the other hand be concealed, that the low tone of morality prevailing generally in our English courts of justice, to whatever cause it may be owing (and the many scandalous licenses of mendacity countenanced by our prescribed forms of law have doubtless had their effect in producing it), would render any such change a matter of extreme danger at present. It is even argued, with no little force of reason, that instead of diminishing oaths, you might do well to increase them, by requiring all preliminary pleadings to be verified by the oaths of the parties. At present any plaintiff or defendant may just tell what lie he pleases on the files of the courts, these lies entailing great expenses on his antagonist, even when they do not trip him up by some failure of form in replying to them; and not till he comes into court to support his falsehoods by oath does he incur the least responsibility for them. It is urged therefore that to permit false statements before trial, and only punish them when sworn to afterwards, is substantially to tempt men to crime; and that the most likely way to prevent men from swearing falsely would be to stop them when first they would tell you a falsehood.

NARRATIVE OF POLITICS.

THE Royal Commission for enquiring into the alleged *Corrupt transactions at the St. Alban's Election* commenced its proceedings at that place on the 27th of October, and has sat frequently during this month. The inquiry is not yet terminated, the sittings having been adjourned to the 1st of December. The following are some of the principal features of the voluminous evidence which has been given before the Commissioners.—Mr. Jacob Bell, the sitting member, stated, that the first communication he received upon the subject of the election was from Mr. Coppock, the parliamentary agent, who sent him a note telling him he wanted to see him particularly respecting a vacancy. Mr. Bell saw Mr. Coppock, who told him the vacancy was at St. Alban's, and that if he became a candidate he was likely to be returned, and that the expense of it would be about 2500*l*. Mr. Bell expressed himself rather surprised at the largeness of the amount, and wanted to know what it was for; to which Mr. Coppock replied, that there were various expenses, and a good deal to pay for agents, and that that would be about the amount, and he thought he could secure him the election for that sum of money. Mr. Bell afterwards communicated with Mr. Brace his solicitor, on the subject matter of the money, and with Mr. Hills (Mr. Bell's partner), and left it entirely to them. Mr. Bell banked at two banks, and at one jointly with his partner, and it was from the joint partnership bank that 2000*l*. out of the 2500*l*. was drawn, and the 500*l*. he might perhaps have given out of his own pocket. With reference to the election expenses, Mr. Bell produced and referred to a parcel of bills, which he had paid after the election, amounting to 1300*l*., and which had been incurred after the presentation of the petition against his return, but he could not say specifically whether the whole of it was incurred for petitioning expenses or whether some portion of it was for electioneering expenses.—Mr. Brace, the solicitor, stated that he was at first concerned for Mr. Bell in the electioneering, but subsequently retired, finding that interviews had taken place between Mr. Coppock, Mr. Edwards, and Mr. Bell, in the course of which it was frequently mentioned that 2700*l*. would be required for carrying out the election. He had lent Mr. Hills, Mr. Bell's partner, 1000*l*. on the 28th November, 1850, which had been repaid. He lent also a second 1000*l*. soon after, and received letters from Edwards, saying he would send his son to Coppock's for "packets." No money passed from witness's hands to Coppock.—Mr. Hills, of Oxford street, one of the partners of the sitting member, deposed, in very hesitating terms, to sending, but without the sanction or knowledge of Mr. Bell, during an interval of six weeks, sundry "packets," containing 500*l*. in gold, to Mr. Coppock's, the parliamentary agent, which were regularly called for by Edwards's son, the total sum amounting to between 2500*l*. and 3000*l*., by cheques and moneys on his own account. Expected that it would meet with Mr. Bell's approbation, and that he would reimburse him after the election, as a matter of honour.—Mr. Edwards, who it will be remembered was committed to prison for contumacy as a witness before the Committee of the House of Commons, now gave full and explicit evidence. After detailing the preliminary arrangements for Mr.

Bell's coming forward as a candidate, Mr. Edwards described his mode of distributing among the electors the money placed at his disposal. In the evenings Edwards usually 'took up his position at his office,' and a *soirée* was held, at which, 'according to the regular custom of twenty-five years,' the voters attended, and 'if they promised their vote, he gave them head-money.' The current quotation on such occasions was 5*l*., which was increased a little if the functions of messenger, spy, or pugilist were added to that of elector. At the last election there were 'three prize-fighters employed to keep the peace,' whose actual services to the cause of Mr. Bell the witness estimated at full 50*l*., though they only received 15*l*. After, a general description of these matters, Mr. Edwards was required to give the actual names of the electors whom he thus bribed. He at first objected to do this, even with tears, but being threatened with imprisonment he yielded.—The commissioners were furnished with copies of the borough register of electors, and proceeded to call over the whole of the names in regular alphabetical order; asking the witness whether the voter in question had received anything for his vote, and how much. The witness made his answers from his recollection, by the aid of a copy of the poll book. The commissioners in this manner went over the whole of the register for St. Alban's parish; and the witness gave in about a hundred names of electors who had all received bribes of 5*l*. or upwards. In about a dozen cases the amounts were as high as 8*l*.; but then the parties in most instances were stated by the witness to have been employed either as messengers or spies, to entitle them to the excess above 5*l*.; and in some of these cases Edwards gave it as his opinion that the men had actually been under-paid, rather than over-paid, in consideration of the services they had rendered to him during the five weeks during which the canvassing lasted. In a few instances the bribes had been received by the wives in the absence of the voters; and sometimes the husband repudiated the bargain, and withheld his vote from Mr. Bell, without, however, returning the money. The witness explained that his security against the bribed voters breaking their promises after they had pocketed the money was to have nothing to do with them on any future occasion; and if they should at a future election keep their word, or give an unsolicited vote, he generally recompensed them with 2*l*. or 3*l*. after the close of the poll. The whole amount of money spent by Edwards in bribing the electors by head-money, might have amounted to about 1700*l*.; and about 800*l*. was spent for the hire of committee-rooms, salaries of clerks, payments to the band, refreshments, unlimited drink to the committee and their assistants, and the dinners at which Mr. Bell was present. The money which Edwards himself received was "a delicate point." They would not believe him when he told them. But he had "another inducement" besides the money. He should think that he appropriated about 50*l*. to himself. He had been offered 300*l*. by Mr. Simpson, an attorney, if he would leave the matter in his hands, but had refused, and would have refused had it been 3000*l*. instead of 300*l*. This answer provoked a searching question; to which he replied—"I could easily explain it, but I don't think you will press that question, if you think of

the serious injury it will do me. It is nothing connected with the election, and it was only known to Mr. Bell lately through me." After a consultation in whispers, the commissioners asked whether Edwards's object was "to obtain a pecuniary advantage, or only to retain the influence he had in the borough." He admitted that the inducement was greater than money: "it was the interest of some one belonging to me"—"an interest founded upon words that fell." Being further pressed, he said, the "words" fell from Mr. Coppock, but he declined to say what they were.—Mr. Coppock, the well-known election agent, was examined at great length. He said that his profession led him very much in connexion with Parliamentary matters, and had done for fifteen or sixteen years past, and, in fact, since shortly after Sir R. Peel's celebrated speech of "Register! register!" In 1835 an association was formed by the Liberal party, comprising between 700 and 800 of the leading members of Parliament and others; and shortly after it was established without any solicitation on his part, he was appointed secretary. The society was called the Reform Association; and its object was to attend to the registration throughout the country, and to help the Liberal cause generally. That led him into communication with almost every borough and county in England; and from that time to this, he had been, without hardly knowing how, brought into connexion with the Liberal party whenever any vacancies occurred. He had constantly watched them, and knew most places in England; and if instead of going through the St. Alban's register, as Mr. Edwards had done, he (witness) were to take whole boroughs, beginning at Abingdon and going on to Stafford, and to point out every member who had bought his seat, he could easily make out quite as extraordinary a list. He did not say that to gain applause, but to show what the system was; and no man had a greater horror of it than he had. He detailed his interviews and negotiations with Mr. Bell, Mr. Brace, Mr. Edwards, and others, on the subject of Mr. Bell's standing for St. Alban's, until Mr. Bell agreed to come forward on the understanding that the expense would be 2500*l.*, with the probability that there would be no contest. In the meantime Mr. Coppock had found St. Alban's in the market, through three different channels. Mr. Simpson was one; Mr. Edwards (who was acting with himself) was another; and there was a third party, the heads of which were Mr. Webster, Mr. Bowen, and Mr. Blanks. Mr. Coppock thought he could avoid a contest more safely if he could reconcile Simpson and Edwards. He tried to do it, and used every means in his power to prevent their clashing; and he prevented for more than a week Mr. Bell's announcement, simply from a desire to prevent a contest. He found out at last that it was ineffectual, and that the third party were determined to have a man. He heard of their going from one person to another. He knew almost everybody in these proceedings. He heard of the visits to Alderman Carden—of the negotiations with him, and that 1500*l.* was his limit—that he did not like 2500*l.* He heard of other people in the same way, word being brought to him; and Edwards was pressing him on the other hand to let him have Mr. Bell out directly. At that time there was no other candidate absolutely announced. But the other party were in negotiation with Alderman Carden, because there had been different meetings at the White Hart and other places, on the 23rd of November; and he (Coppock) had a document to show that the third party were every way desirous of getting a candidate without regard to politics, but simply to expenditure—that somebody to bribe or bleed had always been the object of this third party—that there were many respectable men certainly who knew no more of the things that were practised than in other places, but that the great majority of the voters were always bought or sold without regard to principle. Mr. Bell having made an arrangement with him (Coppock) that 2500*l.* should be the ultimatum, with a chance of no contest, in which even the expense would be reduced materially, it was agreed that the money should be supplied. A difficulty arose about where the money was to go. Coppock never saw one farthing of it; he only knew that it came ready for transmission to his office. It was delivered in

his outer office in sealed packets, and done up in brown paper, and sent to St. Alban's. He knew nothing of who they came from—he only knew what they were. He never opened them. In these cases inquiries are never made into particulars. In all transactions of this sort, in every borough with which he had been connected in his life, he had nothing to do with the arrangement of the money or the disposition of it, or anything else of that kind. He merely passed the money—he obtained none of it; he derived no advantage, except what was political, and never saw anything of it in any shape. The money went to St. Alban's—he believed 2500*l.* went down some way or other, and a contest was got up by a party whose only object in getting it up was to cause an expenditure of money, and the character of whose object was as well known and notorious as that the majority of the voters are bought and sold; and the result was that Mr. Bell was returned, the majority having voted for him which Mr. Edwards had named. Mr. Coppock underwent a searching examination in respect to the inducement stated by Edwards, to have been held out to him by Mr. Coppock, and which had made him disregard pecuniary emolument; but nothing was elicited, except that Coppock might have held out hopes in a general way, that something would be done for him by the liberal party in remuneration for his services.—Among the other witnesses was Mr. Richard Low, solicitor, of St. Alban's, the agent of Sir Richard Carden, who gave evidence that he had paid about 530*l.* for bills on account of the election: besides that amount, there are still some small sums due; and Mr. Low's own bill, and the expenses of Sir Richard Carden's London agent, were not included. No bribery took place, but Mr. Low was "afraid that Conservatives are as open to a bribe as the other party"; and he certainly himself took the precaution not to make his payments for "services" till after the petition was settled, as recriminatory charges might have been "unfairly made" by the other side on a scrutiny.—Among other proofs of the universal corruption, Mr. Low stated, as a thing of course, that the police were bribed by Mr. Bell's party; so that Sir Richard Carden had to pay men to act in their stead, and protect his voters and partisans, and his band and flags.—Mr. Blagg, the Town-Clerk, explained the position of the "Third Party;" in the borough; a party who had no political creed, but were anxious for a contest on all occasions, for the sake of "expected advantages"; who divided their votes, or voted alternately with the opposite party, to preserve the balance. Mr. Blagg stated, that "experience had led him to the belief that the new voters introduced by the Reform Bill are more venal than the old voters;" and of the three denominations of voters at St. Alban's, he thinks the "freemen are the purest."—Alderman Sir Richard Carden gave evidence of his having been invited by a deputation to stand on the purity principle, and really thought they were immaculate; but he had already parted with 900*l.* before his expenses were all paid, and had become convinced of the universal venality prevailing at St. Alban's.—Mr. Edwards and Mr. Low were examined respecting the various elections at St. Alban's prior to that by which Mr. Bell became the sitting member. The results of their depositions were—that on the Liberal side about 19,000*l.* has been spent in the cost of elections since 1832, and on the Conservative side about 15,250*l.*

A deputation waited upon Lord Palmerston on the 18th, at the Foreign Office, to present *Addresses* from the inhabitants of Finsbury and Islington, congratulating his lordship on the aid he rendered the Sultan of Turkey in effecting the liberation of Kossuth. The Finsbury address tendered to his lordship the hearty thanks of the meeting for his "patriotic and humane conduct (in defiance of frequent and atrocious threats from Christian potentates) towards the illustrious patriot and exile, Louis Kossuth, by demanding his release from the hands of those odious and detestable assassins who sought his destruction." The Marylebone address was to the same effect. Both had been unanimously agreed to at great public meetings. Lord Palmerston, in reply, said he felt greatly flattered by this expression of opinion on the part of so large a number of his fellow-

countrymen for his exertions in endeavouring to promote the cause of national freedom of those nations who stood in need of it. The Government was fully aware of the sympathies of the British nation in favour of the cause of Hungary, but of course, as the organ of her Majesty's government, in friendly alliance with great foreign powers which had been referred to, it could not be expected that he should concur in some of the expressions which had been used in the addresses. He felt, however, that it was highly gratifying to have been instrumental in aiding the cause of the patriotic Hungarians and Poles, who without British intervention, would no doubt have been doomed to perpetual imprisonment and sacrificed their freedom, if not even their lives, in the cause of their country's independence. They never could have been rescued from the fate which awaited them, even by the aid which the government of this country was enabled to afford, had not the government been backed by public opinion here. There was no question of the great moral power which the government of this country had over foreign affairs so long as the government were backed in the exercise of that power by the public opinion of the people. No doubt the moral power of the British government was immense, more than people generally imagined, but it would be only effective so long as the people and the government went together. There could be no doubt but with regard to its Hungarian policy the government had been backed by the people, as was instanced by the fact of the appeals which had been made from all quarters, and from all the large towns and cities in the kingdom, urging on the government of this country to interfere in that important question. It was not necessary that England should exercise a power with its armies, with its bayonets, or with its cannons. The moral power, where the government was backed by the people, would do a great deal more. The moral power was greater than anything else, but even that could not be made effective, unless the Government and people acted in union. The government, more especially the foreign department, were sometimes accused with keeping so much secrecy with regard to their transactions with foreign powers. It was said there ought not to be so much secrecy in diplomacy; but upon the same ground that men in the ordinary business transactions of life, did not make public all the details of such transactions until the bargains in which they might be engaged were completed, so also was it necessary that the publication of the proceedings of diplomacy should be left to the judgment and discretion of that department of the government, in order properly to transact the business of the nation. Lord Palmerston concluded by repeating that the reception of these addresses, and the general expression of approval of his conduct on the part of his countrymen, afforded him unfeigned pleasure and gratification.

NARRATIVE OF LAW AND CRIME.

At the Central Criminal Court, on the 29th of October, Ignatius Francis Coyle was tried for *Forging and Uttering a Promissory Note for 150l.* The note purported to be signed by Viscount Clifden, and was given to Captain Alexander McEachey Alleyne. Coyle is a bill-discounter, and keeper of a betting establishment near Leicester Square. Captain Alleyne had betted with him, gone shares in bets, and lent him money. As a security for the money lent, Coyle gave the note in question; he subsequently admitted that it was forged, implored Captain Alleyne to forgive him, and at length obtained a partial pardon: the Captain took a promissory note for the money due to him, and refrained for a time from prosecuting the forger. The chief effort made in defence of the prisoner was an attempt to damage the character of Captain Alleyne and his brother by cross-examination. Mr. Kennedy, a young officer in the army, had lost 7000*l.* to Captain Holder Alleyne, brother to Alexander; the money was lost by a bet on the trotting powers of a certain American mare: she was well known as "Fanny Jenks" in America; Captain Holder Alleyne brought her to England, but changed her name to "Pigeon,"

and of course the object of the cross-examination was to show that thus Mr. Kennedy was tricked of his money. A letter of Captain Alexander Alleyne's talked about "borrowing a house to do a plant," and of "nice young fledglings," apparently to be plucked there. The Captain admitted that he would call a certain Mr. Flower, a "fledgling": that person lost 8000*l.* at the Derby in 1850. Captain Holder Alleyne, on his cross-examination, said:—"I don't consider that I am a defaulter. I owed about 12,000*l.* after the Derby 1850. I don't know that I was posted as a defaulter on the settling-day. I had won about 3000*l.* I left the army because I wished to leave it, and for no other reason. I was in Canada, and formed an acquaintance there, I am sorry to say, with Mr. Kennedy. I won 7000 guineas of him; which sum he paid me. Mr. Kennedy was not an old man. I don't know that he was not more than nineteen when I won the money." The witness added, that he was "not aware" that Mr. Kennedy left England a ruined man. Witness had quitted the turf, and followed the occupation of "a married man." The counsel for the defence suggested that Coyle might have taken the forged note in business; urged that the character of the Alleynes was not such as to make their testimony worthy of acceptance; and declared that their motive was to get rid of an obnoxious witness in Mr. Kennedy's case. The jury found the prisoner guilty of uttering the instrument knowing it to be forged. Judgment was deferred, but on the 1st inst. Coyle was sentenced to imprisonment for twelve months in Newgate.

Christopher Brooks was indicted at the Central Criminal Court, on the 3rd inst., for *Cutting and Wounding Elizabeth Rothero*, with intent to murder her. The prisoner, a young man of 20, was house-porter to Messrs. Terry, carpet merchants, of Chiswell-street, and prosecutrix was their cook. The prisoner had borrowed of her a small sum of money, and upon her asking him to repay her he refused. They in consequence had some words, and she threatened to tell his master of the circumstance. Next day they had some further words, and in the evening Brooks came behind her and struck her with a knife. She screamed murder, and he then struck her in the face, making a gash on her nose. She put up her hands to defend herself, and got them cut in several places. The prisoner then threw the knife away, and ran out of the house without his hat on. Her cries brought the nurse to her assistance, who found her seated by the sink almost insensible from loss of blood. Upon being undressed she was found to have been stabbed between the shoulders; a surgeon was called, and she was removed to St. Bartholomew's hospital. The jury found the prisoner guilty of wounding, with intent to do bodily harm, and the common sergeant said, if he had been convinced of the intent to murder, he would have been hanged. He was ordered to be transported for fifteen years.

On Saturday night the 1st inst, a *Murder and Suicide* were committed by the wife of a young man, of the name of Blakemore, who has for many years been in the service of Mr. Level, copper-plate printer, of Greek-street, Soho. Mrs. Blakemore, it appears, contrary to the advice of her medical attendants, had persisted in suckling her child, and while so engaged, during the evening in question, on the return of her nurse, who had gone out to make some purchases, the door of the deceased's room was found locked, and no reply being given to the applications for admission, it was forced open, when the mother was found lying at the foot of the bed on the floor, and a large carving knife resting upon her shoulder, as if she had dropped in the last struggle of death. She was in a pool of blood, and there was a frightful gash on the neck, extending from the left ear nearly to the other. The poor child was then sought for, and she was found in the bed with her throat cut nearly to an equal extent. On the arrival of medical assistance the mother and child were pronounced to be quite dead. An inquest was held on the bodies, when, in the case of the child, the Jury returned a verdict of wilful murder against the mother, and in the case of Mrs. Blakemore herself, found that she had destroyed herself while in a state of insanity.

The Court of Queen's Bench, on the 4th inst., granted

to Dr. Achilli a rule calling on Messrs. Burns and Lambert the publishers, to show cause why a criminal information should not be issued against them for publishing a *Libel uttered by Dr. Newman*, the Oratorian father, in his "Lectures on the Present Position of Catholics in England, addressed to the Brothers of the Oratory." The libel consisted of the following specific charges, and general charges of "habitual incontinency." "I am that Achilli who, in the diocese of Viterbo, in February 1831, robbed of her honour a young woman of eighteen; who in September 1833 was found guilty of a second such crime, in the case of a person of twenty-eight; and who perpetrated a third in July 1834, in the case of another aged twenty-four. I am he who afterwards was found guilty of sins similar, or worse, in other towns of the neighbourhood. I am that son of St. Dominic who is known to have repeated the offence at Capua in 1834 or 1835; and at Naples, again, in 1840, in the case of a child of fifteen. I am he who chose the sacristy of the church for one of these crimes, and Good Friday for another." Dr. Achilli by his affidavits denied every specific charge in the most distinct terms. The rule, it was stated, would have been asked for against Dr. Newman himself, but he will not admit anything, and the authorship of the libel cannot be *proceed* against him. Dr. Newman, however, has since come forward and taken the responsibility upon himself; and his name consequently has been substituted as defendant for the names of his publishers.

On the 14th inst, two cases occurred in two different courts, in which parties in suits, examined as witnesses, were committed for trial on the Charge of Perjury.—In the Court of Exchequer, Asplin a coachmaker, sued Blackman for repairs to carriages, to the amount of 27l. 16s. 6d. The defendant had paid the sum of 11l. 2s. into court, in satisfaction of all demands, alleging that there had been a contract between the parties. This the plaintiff flatly denied, and the defendant and his son as positively affirmed. After a lengthened trial, the jury found a verdict for the plaintiff to the amount of 2l. 10s. Baron Martin then ordered the plaintiff to come forward, and told him that he felt sorry at being compelled to exercise a very painful duty. The jury had found a verdict in which he fully concurred, and he felt it his duty to call upon him (the plaintiff) to enter into his own recognisances to appear at the next sessions at the Old Bailey, for the purpose of taking his trial for perjury. The witnesses in the trial were also bound over to appear and give evidence; and the judge informed the attorney for Mr. Blackman that he (the judge) was acting under the 14th and 15th Vict., cap. 100, sec. 19, by which the attorney would be entitled to costs for conducting the prosecution.—The other case was in the Bail Court. The parties were two tradesmen, Mahon and Wright; and the action was for the recovery of 40l., the alleged balance on a bill of exchange given by the defendant Wright to the plaintiff. The defendant pleaded that he had settled the claim by the delivery of goods to the plaintiff. Both parties were examined as witnesses respecting the transactions between them; and the plaintiff's testimony having been disproved by other evidence, a verdict was given for the defendant; while the plaintiff, by order of the judge, was committed to prison, to take his trial for perjury at the Central Criminal Court.

An inquiry into the Conduct of Mr. Ramshay, the judge of the Liverpool County Court, commenced on the 5th inst, at Preston, before the Earl of Carlisle, the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, by whom Mr. Ramshay had been appointed. Mr. Monk and Mr. Tindal Atkinson appeared as counsel for the complainants, inhabitants of Liverpool; and Mr. Ramshay was defended by sergeant Wilkins and several juniors. Many witnesses were examined on both sides. The circumstances already known by the public were established by the evidence of the complainants. For the defence it was contended that the charges were the result of a conspiracy against Mr. Ramshay; and witnesses were examined to show that Mr. Ramshay had never conducted himself improperly, but had always behaved with decorum and courtesy. On the conclusion of the inquiry, Lord Carlisle intimated that he would take time to consider the case, and ultimately pronounced

a judgment, removing Mr. Ramshay from his judicial office.

A horrible case of *Self-Mutilation* has occurred at Islington. Elizabeth Edwards, a young servant girl, after doing her usual morning's work, cut off her left hand at the wrist with a carving knife, and threw it into the fire, having previously attempted to destroy her eyes with iron skewers. The bleeding being profuse, she thrust the stump into the fire, which had the effect of stopping the hemorrhage, and thus saved her life; she then thrust her right hand into the fire, and burnt it to a cinder, when her mistress hearing an unusual noise in the kitchen, went to ascertain what was the matter, and found her with both hands in the fire. She pulled her from the fire, and sent for a surgeon in the neighbourhood, who promptly attended, and found her a second time with her right hand burning by the side of the one she had cut off. He took her hands out and laid her in the kitchen fire, and sent his man-servant with her in a cab to St. Bartholomew's Hospital, where she now lies, and is likely to recover, but with the entire loss of her hands. The only reason she assigns for her insane act, is, that she thought she was doing service to God.

A whitesmith of Tewkesbury, named White, has been arrested in London for not paying a *Poor-Rate* at Tewkesbury. When brought before Alderman Wilson at the Mansion-house, it appeared that the rate was 8s. 6d., and the expenses 7l. 19s. The Alderman thought this an extraordinary claim. Fletcher said he was in London, out of work, when the original summons was issued; it was served upon his wife; he was not able to pay the rate, and the costly proceedings against him were the result of spite, as it was known that he could not pay either rate or expenses. The Tewkesbury constable affirmed the parish debtor's ability to pay. The result was, that Fletcher was conveyed to Tewkesbury, of course at a farther expense.

Another revolting *Murder* has been committed in London. Thomas Bear, a tobacco-pipe maker, in North Street, Marylebone, had constantly ill-treated his wife, and driven her to leave him and seek her own living. Her last place of retreat, in North Street, he discovered on the evening of Saturday, the 8th inst; and finding that she was not at home, he waited her arrival,—charging her, to the owner of the lodging, with incontinency, and with theft of his property. On her return he entered her room; soon after, loud screams, and the noise of heavy falls, were heard, but no one thought of interfering. After a time, Bear brought some boxes out of his wife's room, and went to a public-house. As he left this house he observed to a policeman, that he had done something to his wife, which no doubt would require his attendance at the police-office; and while he spoke, a man came up and gave him into custody for murder. His wife had been found dead on the floor of her room; her body bore more than a dozen punctured wounds; and under the fender was found a sharp-pointed saw-file, and its broken handle. A coroner's inquest, on the 10th, terminated with a verdict of wilful murder against Bear. He was also examined at the Marylebone Police-office. The evidence was similar in both inquiries. Bear had been drinking, was noisy and excited, but not actually drunk. Before the magistrate, his demeanour exhibited great callousness; he coolly cross-examined witnesses, but without much reference to the charge against him. A lad of seventeen who went with Bear to take away the boxes, was put into the witness box, but the magistrate would not put him on his oath, as he seemed to have no notion of the existence of a God, and no sort of religious feeling. The prisoner has two children,—a boy, who was living with him, and a girl, "upon the streets." He attempted no defence; and has been committed for trial.

At the Middlesex Sessions, on the 10th, Henry Martin, a young man of twenty-one, was convicted of inciting Charles White, a boy of twelve, to *Rob his Master*. White was employed as an errand-boy; Martin accosted him in the street, induced him to purloin a pistol, and then by threats of making this crime known, compelled him to steal a silver fork, a sovereign, and a watch. Martin, who had previously been thrice convicted of felony, was sentenced to fourteen years' transportation.

In the Court of Queen's Bench on the 20th, judgment was given in an action of *Libel* at the instance of William Henry Clarkson, a Wesleyan Superintendent Minister residing at Derby, against John Kay, the proprietor and publisher of the "Wesleyan Times" newspaper. A woman named Charlotte Irons, who had lived in the service of Mr. Clarkson, became pregnant and charged him with being the father of her child. In September, last year, one or two articles appeared in the journal in question stating the fact, without mentioning any name. On the 27th November, an investigation took place before the magistrates, when a barrister appeared for Mr. Clarkson, and after a lengthened inquiry, in the course of which the woman and other witnesses were examined, the magistrates, dismissed the case on the ground that they were not satisfied that there was any corroborative evidence. On the 2nd December an article was published in the "Wesleyan Times," insinuating that the prosecutor was the father of the child and urging the necessity of an inquiry by the Conference into the facts; and the same paper contained a report of the proceedings before the magistrates. There were two other articles in the paper subsequently, from which it might be implied that the writer believed Mr. Clarkson to be guilty, although the charge had been dismissed. A prosecution having been brought by Mr. Clarkson, against Mr. Kay, he was convicted of libel at the sittings after last term, but strongly recommended to mercy by the jury on account of the strong party feeling which existed between the two parties into which the Wesleyan body had been divided, of one section of which—that called the reform party—the "Wesleyan Times" was the acknowledged organ. The prosecutor's counsel now moved for judgment, upon which affidavits were put in by the defendant and the prosecutor. The affidavit of the former stated that he lived at Huddersfield; that the libels in question were not written by him, or known to him, until they were published in the newspaper, and that the articles complained of did not intend to state that the prosecutor was guilty, but merely that a case had been made out for inquiry by the district meeting or the Conference. The affidavit of Mr. Clarkson set forth that the libels had been most injurious to his character; that he had been 30 years in the Wesleyan connexion, but had been removed from his last station, after only one year's residence, in consequence of the effect which the statements in the "Wesleyan Times" had produced. He also denied the truth of the statement made by Charlotte Irons. Mr. Justice Patteson, in giving the judgment of the court, said that although the defendant resided at a distance from London, where the paper in question was printed, he must have had some knowledge of the insertion of the articles, looking at the series of attacks which had been made on Mr. Clarkson. If only one article had been inserted, the fact of the defendant not having been cognisant of it would have had some influence on the court, but when four libels in succession had been published, they could not suppose the defendant to have been ignorant of them. It was most improper to assume that the story told by Charlotte Irons was correct after the decision which the magistrates had come to; and there was considerable malignity in the articles complained of. Taking into consideration the recommendation of the jury, and all the circumstances of the case, the sentence of the court was that the defendant should be imprisoned in the Queen's Prison for four months.

An inquest was held on the 20th at Guy's Hospital, touching the death of a young woman, named Joanna Hern, who had committed *Suicide* by taking prussic acid. It appeared that on the evening of the 18th, she was at the house of Mr. Littleton, in Long-lane, whose wife she had been chafing for, and that a young man, named Henry Thomas, who was paying his addresses to her, came to see her home. They had been joking together, when she said she would go up stairs in the bed-room, previous to going to her aunt's in the Kent-road, with whom she lived. She went up-stairs, and Mrs. Littleton's sister, who was in the bed-room with her, soon after gave an alarm, which called up all the inmates of the house. The girl said she had taken poison; she then exclaimed, "Oh, Henry, Henry!"

alluding to the young man, and immediately afterwards, "Oh, my poor mother!" Immediately afterwards she expired. A bottle containing prussic acid was found in the bed-room, and it was proved by medical testimony that her death was caused by prussic acid. The deceased was generally in excellent spirits, but would sometimes complain about her father and mother having left her to go to America. Verdict, temporary insanity.

Edwin Richards, a person who has held a respectable position in society, has been committed by the Somersetshire magistrates on the charge of *Sheep-Stealing*. It appeared from the evidence, that for several months past, an extensive system of sheep-stealing has been carried on, not only in Somerset, but among the sheep-folds on the Gloucestershire side of the city of Bristol. Sometimes the animals would be killed upon the ground, their carcasses carried off, and the skins, heads, and entrails, either left upon the field or sunk in some pond; and at other times, the sheep would be driven off, so as to leave it doubtful for a time, whether they had been stolen or had broken bounds and strayed. On the evening of the 26th of October, eighteen sheep belonging to Mr. Cottle, a farmer, were seen safe in the field, and at an early hour on the following morning they were missing. Information was given to the police, but all efforts to detect the depredator proved unavailing, until the prisoner fell into the hands of the Bristol police force upon another charge. One of the officers, upon searching him, found in his pocket a cheque drawn by a butcher in London, and this fact, coupled with some others that had previously come to his knowledge, led the constable to suspect that he had been concerned in Mr. Cottle's robbery. He further learned from the drawer of the cheque that it had been given in payment for some sheep; and a railway porter in the employ of the Great Western Railway Company, at the Bath station, identified the prisoner as having on the day of the robbery brought eighteen sheep (the number stolen) to the railway, where he booked the sheep for conveyance to the Paddington station, stating that they would be called for there by a Mr. Brown, a drover, who would take charge of them, and convey them to their destination. It was further proved that the prisoner himself afterwards proceeded to London; that he presented himself at the Paddington station and asked for the sheep, which were given to him; and that he then drove them to Smithfield market, and sold them to a butcher, whose cheque was found upon him.

The Bristol County Court was occupied on the 19th with a case which excited an interest beyond its pecuniary amount, on account of its bearing on the *Present Differences in the Church*. The plaintiff, Miss Elizabeth Irons, is the daughter of a dissenting minister, and the proprietor of a boarding school in the neighbourhood of Bristol. The defendant, Mr. John Bullock, is a gentleman of property connected with a distillery at Bloomsbury. The action was brought to recover the sum of about 15*l.*, alleged to be due from the defendant to the plaintiff in consequence of his having removed his children from her charge without giving her the usual quarterly notice required by the rules of her prospectus. The real question in the case was, what induced Mr. Bullock to remove his daughter from Miss Irons's charge? On the part of the plaintiff it was contended that the removal would not have taken place had not an opportunity offered itself to Mr. Bullock to get his children instructed at a cheaper rate, and that down almost to the date of their withdrawal, he expressed himself perfectly satisfied with their care and progress. The case for the defendant was, that Miss Irons having taken the children with a knowledge, and upon the understanding, that they were to be brought up as the children of an evangelical churchman, she, in violation of the agreement, instructed them in the doctrines of tractarianism, filling their minds with notions that extreme unction was a beautiful doctrine which ought to be restored to the Church, that dissent was heresy and schism condemned in the prayer-book, and that it was wicked to enter a dissenting place of worship; that the Virgin Mary was the queen of saints, and above all saints; that the Catholic was the true Church; and that fasting was proper on Fridays. It was therefore contended that Mr. Bullock was justified in re-

moving his children from such a school. On the part of the plaintiff all these charges were solemnly denied both by her counsel, and by a lady, a sojourner in her house, who said that so particular was Miss Irons, and so averse to Romanism, that she would not permit a Catholic singing mistress to give a lesson unless in her presence, and had forbidden her pupils from corresponding with Roman Catholic friends in Germany. A reference was suggested by the court, and it was ultimately agreed that a verdict should be entered for half the amount claimed, the parties paying their own costs.

A *Daring Robbery* has been committed in the house of Miss Morris, at Weston Beggard in Herefordshire. At three o'clock on the morning of Sunday the 16th, three men entered the house, ransacked the lower rooms, and then ascended to Miss Morris's bedroom; when she awoke and screamed, one thrust the bedclothes over her head, pressed on her chest, and threatened to murder her. They had their faces blackened, or wore crape over them; one had a gun, and another a bludgeon. The noise aroused the servant; but as he opened his door, the leader, a stalwart fellow, presented a gun, and completely cowed him. The house was rifled, and among other plunder carried off was a large and heavy piece of bacon. After the robbers had left the house a few minutes, they returned, and fired the gun through an upper window—it was heavily charged. The neighbourhood was quickly alarmed, but the robbers got clear off. The carrying away of the bacon, and some other facts, have suggested that they were neighbours.

In the Sheriff's Court on the 20th, there was a writ of inquiry to assess the damages in an action of *Crim. Con.* at the instance of William Anthon Bennett, against John Hastings Touchet. Judgment had gone by default in the Court of Queen's Bench. The damages were laid at 10,000*l.* Mr. Greenwood, for the plaintiff, said that the inquiry they were about to enter upon would lead to disclosures of a very painful nature not only to the parties themselves, but to their relatives and friends. The learned counsel was here interrupted by Mr. Hill, counsel for the defendant, who said he fully agreed that the inquiry, if gone into, would disclose matters of a painful character not only as regarded the parties but others, and he therefore would repeat before the under-sheriff and the jury an offer he had made to his friend privately. The defendant had admitted the facts set forth in the declaration; and he (the learned counsel) now, on his behalf, offered to consent to a verdict being taken for the plaintiff for the sum of 500*l.* Mr. Greenwood said his client's object would be accomplished by the acceptance of this offer, which, under the circumstances, he considered a reasonable one, and he should consent to it. The jury then gave a verdict for 500*l.* damages.

At the Marlborough Street police court, on the 17th, five persons were brought up, charged with having been concerned, with a number of others, in *Defrauding Loan Societies*, to a very great extent. A gang, amounting to nearly forty persons, have, for some time, acted together, on a pre-concerted plan, to obtain loans by fraudulent representations from different loan societies. Some of the conspirators took houses for a short period, and became referees to others who were applicants for loans. As soon as one set of conspirators had obtained loans in this way, the referees would change places, and become applicants for loans, referring to the parties who had previously obtained loans, and who now acted as house-keepers and referees. In this way they have contrived to carry on a most successful system of fraud, obtaining in a very short time from different societies between 2000*l.* and 3000*l.*, in sums varying from 5*l.* to 10*l.* Three of the prisoners were committed, and two of them remanded.

In the Bail Court on the 18th an *Important Point of Law* under the *New Evidence Act*, was settled. In the case of *Rayner v. Arlewson*, application was made under the authority of the new Act, for a rule calling upon the plaintiff to state upon oath whether the several allegations contained in the affidavit of the defendant were or were not true, and whether or not the plaintiff had in his possession any documents, &c., and if so to

show cause why he should not produce them. The case itself was of no interest, and referred merely to a transaction in the sale of some tallow. Mr Justice Erle had at first some doubts on the subject but ultimately refused the rule. He said: That part of the rule which desired that one party might be commanded to answer the matters in the affidavit, the court was of opinion ought not to be granted. The power given by the statute extended to the production of instruments, but did not extend to compelling a party to answer the matters in the affidavits. With respect to written documents in their generic term, the power extended to those documents which the applicant could convince the judge would probably be material and relevant to prove the issue that was in question. A party is not to have power to search the books of his opponent to see if he can find anything that will serve his purpose.

In the Insolvent Court on the 21st, *Alfred Walker* appeared for adjudication. He had been a student at Cambridge, and afterwards betted on horse races, cards, and billiards. He applied to be discharged from bill transactions, his father having paid all his tradesmen's accounts, but refused to pay his liabilities. The chief commissioner ordered him to be discharged, and at the same time admonished him as to his future conduct, telling him that when he turned his back on this court, if he did not turn his back on the follies which had brought him to it, ruin and disgrace would follow.

Another *Commitment for Perjury* under the new law of evidence took place in the Court of Exchequer on the 21st. Hornidge an attorney in Burton Crescent, sued Hawkins, who described himself as a gentleman, for 18*l.* 11*s.* 8*d.* The defendant pleaded, first, never indebted; and, secondly, non-delivery of the bill according to the statute; but this latter plea was abandoned. A great number of witnesses were examined, including the plaintiff and defendant. Mr. Baron Martin, in summing up, observed it was impossible not to see that on the one side or the other there had been the most deliberate and the most wilfully corrupt perjury. It was a case in which the parties must have known which version was the true one; and if the truth was on the side of the plaintiff, it was obvious that the perjury had been committed by the defendant. If, on the other hand, the truth was on the side of the defendant, it was equally clear that the crime had been committed by the plaintiff. If the latter be the guilty party, the perjury had been committed for the purpose of influencing the jury in favour of a claim which the defendant was not justly entitled to pay. If, on the other hand, the perjury had been committed by the defendant, its object was to defeat the just claim of the plaintiff. The jury found a verdict for the plaintiff, subject to taxation. Mr. Baron Martin then informed the defendant that he felt it his duty to direct him to be committed for trial on a charge of perjury. Mr. Hawkins (who is deaf): I hear the word "perjury." Am I to understand that I am to be committed for perjury? Mr. Baron Martin: Yes. Mr. Hawkins: Then I beg to say that it is martyrdom. Mr. Baron Martin: I cannot help it. The jury have found their verdict, after a most patient investigation of two days' duration, and something must be done to check this practice. Mr. Hawkins was then taken into custody, but was immediately liberated on bail—himself in 200*l.* and two sureties of 50*l.* each.

An arrangement has been made whereby the suits at the instance of the *Board of Customs*, against the *London Dock Company*, have been abandoned. The Dock Company, unwilling to defend longer actions attended with such enormous expense (the government paying no costs), has consented to pay a nominal fine of 100*l.*, on the goods under seizure being released, while, at the same time, they by no means recognise the justice of the legal proceedings. The company also protest against the extreme injustice of having a money fine, however unimportant in amount, added to the grievances which the company has already had most unmeritedly to encounter, and express their conviction, founded on the highest legal advice, and supported by the verdict in the Court of Exchequer, that so far from all the goods having been "properly placed under detention," which the government, in the course of the correspondence, implied that they had admitted, it would have been in

the power of the company to have established verdicts against the officers of the Customs in respect to many of these seizures. The 100% has been paid, and steps have been taken for the release of the goods.

A charge of *Felony*, by means of a novel application of gutta percha, was brought before the magistrates of Tynemouth, on the 19th inst. The borough of Tynemouth Gas Company supply their customers with gas by meter, the company furnishing the meter and the piping from the street leading thereto, the consumer the pipe to the burner. Of course, the company only receives payment for that quantity of gas consumed, as indicated by the meter. A person of the name of Hibbard, a small shopkeeper residing in the low town, having failed in business, the *employees* of the gas company went to fetch away the meter, and cut off the supply. They removed that instrument, and broke off the piping within the shop, which extinguished a light there, but to their astonishment they observed a light still continuing to burn in the back premises. They looked about them, and at last discovered that the gas burnt at that light was conveyed by a gutta percha tube from the company's pipe, to which it was attached. Upon further search it was found that an upper room could be lighted by the same means, and that by an ingenious contrivance the gas could be turned from the meter, and the light in the front shop be furnished by the gas abstracted from the company's pipe. The men reported to the directors, and that body determined to institute a charge of felony against Hibbard, as they must have been cheated to a considerable extent by this ingenious device. He was accordingly given into custody, but, after hearing the case, the Bench came to the conclusion that the charge did not amount to felony, and dismissed it. The company, it is said, intend to take the case to the Northumberland sessions, by indictment.

John Soffe, a small farmer, near Romsey, has been *Murdered*. On the 13th inst., he drove in his cart into Romsey, and did not return. It was found, on inquiry, that he had left Romsey, to return home, in a state of intoxication. His hat was found in the river Test, and an empty canvas purse belonging to him was found on the road; and lastly, his body was found lying at the bottom of the river, in a secluded spot, distant from any public road or path. From an examination of the body, which presented no signs of violence, it appeared that the man must have been drowned. Two men and two women, who were last seen in his company, were apprehended, and examined at the coroner's inquest. Their names are John Eyres, John Kemish, Emma Leach, and Mary Anne Simms. It appeared from the evidence (which was voluminous) that Soffe spent the evening in a beer-house, in company with these four persons, whom he was treating with victuals and beer, in doing which he exhibited his canvas purse, which was full of money. He and his companions left the house together, and went to another tavern, which they also left, after carousing riotously, and he was seen no more. Between six and seven in the evening, a little boy of the name of Glasspool, was standing by himself near the causeway between the bridge and the mill, when he heard the voice of a man, calling out to lay hold of some one, directly after which he heard the voices of two women screaming as if frightened. The voices all seemed to come from the same place. Between eight and nine in the same evening, the two male prisoners were met together in the town, in a state of intoxication, inquiring for the female prisoner, Leach, and threatening that if she did not "dub up," there would be a row in the morning. This was said on more than one occasion. About the same time, a young man passed by them, and heard one of them say to the other, "Let us go and have some beer, for we have done away with him (adding an oath) now." Another witness heard them say they had plenty of money, for they had "done the trick." They were about the town, however, for some time after that, endeavouring to obtain beer, but apparently without the means of paying for it. About ten o'clock they returned together to the Bridge Tavern, and had more beer. While drinking, Eyres kept saying he knew a thing or two, and upon being pressed by the landlord to tell what he meant, said he would learn in the morning. The

two male prisoners slept that and the following night under a rick in the neighbourhood, and were constantly seen together until taken into custody. Kemish was seen in two different dresses (a velvet coat and a white smock-frock) on Thursday night. The canvas purse belonging to the deceased was found lying empty upon the causeway between the bridge and Sadler's mill, on the following morning; and about the same time his hat was found in the river nearly opposite, with sawdust sticking to it, showing that it had come through the mill, one part of which is fitted up as a saw-mill. A verdict of "wilful murder" was found against the four prisoners, and they were committed for trial at the next assizes.

On the 22nd, an inquest was held at Leicester, respecting the death of Mrs. Caroline Charlotte Vesey Gilden (daughter of Major Dawson), who committed *Suicide* on the previous evening by swallowing a large quantity of essential oil of almonds. She had been staying in Leicester for the last month, and from documents found in her apartment it would seem she was in a state of destitution, having spent her last penny, and failed in obtaining assistance from the persons to whom she applied for it. In a diary written by her, several ladies of high rank were spoken of as her intimate friends, and her property in Ireland was stated to be in the hands of attorneys, and likely to continue so. The jury found a verdict of "temporary insanity."

On the morning of the 24th, a man committed *Suicide* by throwing himself from Waterloo-bridge. He was observed by several persons to climb over the balustrading, but from being in his shirt-sleeves, with a leather apron on, they fancied he was going to do something to the gas-pipes. No sooner did he reach the ledge or shelving, than after pausing for an instant, as if for reflection, he jumped into the Thames. All this had been seen by one of the officers of the Thames police force from the deck of the floating station, off Somerset-house, and a boat, manned by some of the constables, was immediately put off in hopes of saving the man's life. The tide at the time was running down, and the boat, having to row against it, could not arrive in sufficient time to rescue him.

In the Court of Queen's Bench, on the 24th, judgment was given in the case of the workmen in the employment of Mr. Perry, of Wolverhampton, who had been convicted at the last Stafford Assizes of a *Conspiracy to raise Wages*. The case had been brought before the court of Queen's Bench on a motion in arrest of judgment, and for a new trial. Mr. Justice Patteson, in pronouncing judgment, said, that the law allowed workmen to combine to raise their wages, but did not allow them to do illegal acts. Masters might conduct their business as they pleased, and workmen could work at what wages they pleased; but the law must not be broken. The learned judge then proceeded to make some remarks upon the National Trades Association to the effect that, considering that it possessed so large a sum as 20,000*l.*, it was a combination which might be turned to a bad and dangerous purpose. The defendants said they did not mean to violate the law, but the jury had decided that point, and perhaps they had meant to keep just within the limits of the law; but people should be careful to keep well within the limits of the law, because those who were their agents might overstep their original intentions. Taking into consideration the whole circumstances of the case, the sentence of the court was, that the defendants, Wm. Peele, Frederick Green, George Duffield, Thomas Woodnorth, and John Gaunt, be imprisoned in Stafford Gaol for three calendar months, and the defendant Charles Pyatt for one calendar month.

An extraordinary case of *Crim. Con.* has taken place in France. M. de Castillon, a young man of large property, of Aix, and Madame Cremieux, wife of a gentleman of the same city, were tried before the Tribunal of Correctional Police for adultery. M. de Castillon, having induced Madame Cremieux to elope, conveyed her to Brussels, where they took up their residence at a fashionable hotel. The husband went after them in company of a police officer, and the guilty pair were brought back to Paris in custody. But M. Cremieux then withdrew the complaint he had made, and he

did so, he alleged, at the request of his wife's family. He demanded 1000 francs from M. de Castillon for the expenses of the journey, and, after some bargaining, consented to accept 500 francs. Negotiations were subsequently entered into between Cremieux and de Castillon, the result of which was that the former undertook to resign his wife to the latter, and never to prosecute him, on the condition that he would pay 30,000 francs. The money was duly paid, and it was Cremieux himself who went to de Castillon's notary to receive the promissory notes and definitely settle the affair. He had at first asked for 40,000 francs, and it was only after some discussion with de Castillon that he consented to accept the 30,000 francs. In virtue of this strange convention, Madame de Cremieux returned to de Castillon; but Cremieux subsequently laid complaint against them for adultery. Just before his wife returned to the young man, Cremieux said to him—"Though you have got my wife for 30,000 francs, I offer to bet you 500 francs that in less than six months she will have another lover." To this de Castillon replied—"I will take your bet, but it must be written down." Cremieux, in giving evidence, spoke of this scandalous transaction with the greatest unconcern, and his conduct and language excited intense indignation. Madame Cremieux, on being called on for her defence, did not deny the adultery, but said that her husband had ill-treated her and driven her from his home. She admitted that she was aware of the pecuniary arrangements between him and her lover. M. de Castillon said that after he had entered in the convention to pay the 30,000 francs, he thought that Madame de Cremieux was perfectly free, and that Cremieux would have taken measures to procure a legal separation from her. The tribunal only condemned Madame Cremieux to fifteen days' imprisonment, and M. de Castillon to a fine of 1000 francs.

NARRATIVE OF ACCIDENT AND DISASTER.

A Fatal Explosion has occurred at West Moor Colliery, near Newcastle. The gas took fire in one of the workings in which fourteen people were engaged; six men and two boys were killed, and the others were dreadfully burnt. In the very extensive galleries of the mine there were two hundred persons at work. The explosion took place in what is called the metal drift, a very explosive quarter, situated about half a mile from the main shaft, and flew from the level half-way up a steep incline, where it came in contact with some rollers and tubs that had got off the way, which split it, and kept it in the working where it originated. The mine is worked with lamps. Not one who was engaged at the spot where the explosion began was left alive: it is supposed that the accident was caused by a man smoking a pipe.

A Disastrous Collision at Sea occurred off the Norfolk coast on Sunday morning, the 2nd inst. The Alert schooner, of Ipswich, ran into the sloop Samuel and Eliza; the master of the sloop boarded the schooner to learn her name; in attempting to return, he was so crushed between the vessels that he died in a short time. Both vessels were greatly damaged, and in a short time the crews were obliged to quit them in their boats, as they were fast foundering. The mariners were picked up by passing ships.

At an early hour on the morning of Monday, the 3rd inst. a fire broke out in the house of Colonel Mitchell, in Langham Place. There were sleeping in the house, the colonel, his lady, the steward and butler, three or four female domestics, and a young gentleman who was on a visit to the family. An alarm having been given it was not without considerable difficulty that the inmates could be made sensible of the danger. This, however, having been at length effected, they contrived by various expedients to make their escape, but we regret to say, notwithstanding the speedy attendance of the engines, the flames were not extinguished before a serious amount of property was reduced to ashes.

On Sunday afternoon, the 2nd inst. last, a fearful *Explosion of Fireworks* took place on the premises of Mr. Bull, grocer and oilman, Lower Smith Street, Clerkenwell, by which Mr. Bull and his two assistants, named Thomas Phillips and James Prickett, were so seriously injured as to be obliged to be conveyed to the hospital, where Phillips and Prickett have since died. Mr. Bull was preparing some fireworks, and in trying an experiment with a squib a spark came into contact with a tub of gunpowder, and caused it to explode. On Thursday, an inquest was held on the bodies of the two workmen, when Mr. Payne, the coroner, observed that the manufacture of fireworks was prohibited by law, and that, being an illegal act, any one who should be accessory to the death of another, by an explosion of the composition for making them, would be guilty of manslaughter. In this case it unfortunately happened that all the parties concerned were sufferers. The verdict was, "That the deceased men came to their deaths by an explosion of fireworks, which they were making."

On the 4th, a man named Owen, keeper of a coffee-shop, in Bear Street, Leicester Square was Killed on board the "Queen of the Thames," steamer, near Erith Pier. He was going to see a boxing-match, and was much intoxicated. He was sitting on the frame-work surrounding the engine, when he lost his balance, and fell among the machinery. He laid a desperate hold of the side ledge; but the cylinder rising at the moment, the arm was chopped off, and he was dragged down between the engines. The engineer stopped the vessel as soon as possible, and then a sight, the most appalling, presented itself. The head of the unfortunate man was completely cut off, as were a leg and an arm; the brains and portions of the body were scattered amongst the machinery. The scattered remains were gathered together, and having been tied up in a sail-bag, were rowed ashore in the custody of a waterman and some of the passengers. The deceased, who was a man of middle age, has left a wife and two young children.

A Fatal Steamboat Explosion occurred on the evening of the 5th at Conham Ferry, near Bristol Bridge. A small steam-tug, on the screw principle, the property of the Kennet and Avon Canal Company, was engaged in towing one of the barges of that company laden with general merchandise from Bath to Bristol. When it arrived at the place named, the boiler burst with a terrific noise; and on the smoke and steam clearing off not a vestige of the steamer could be seen. The deck had been blown out and hurled into the air, descending to the fields on both sides of the water; while the hull, shattered and torn asunder, had sunk to the bottom of the channel, which in that place is more than twenty feet deep. The crew of the John and Sophia barge, which was a short distance astern, immediately commenced an active search for the poor fellows, four in number, who were on board the steam-tug, when suddenly they observed a person in the water calling for help. He was immediately rescued, and proved to be a man named Eacott, who had been steering at the moment the explosion took place, and was blown clear off the deck into the air. The poor fellow was dreadfully injured, his left foot hanging to his leg by the skin, just above the ankle, and his body being shockingly mutilated. The bodies of the other men were subsequently found in the river, from which they were taken out and landed. At the inquest on the bodies, it was made highly probable that the boiler burst from excessive steam-power, negligently or recklessly got up by the engineer; but an open verdict was returned. The jury said, that if the engineer were living they would heavily censure him; and the coroner thought, that if he were living a verdict of manslaughter ought to be returned against him.

The American papers contain a narrative of the *Destruction of a large Whale Ship* by the attack of a sperm whale; an occurrence of which only one previous instance is recorded. The ship Ann Alexander, Captain Debolio, sailed from New Bedford, Massachusetts, in June, 1850, on a whaling voyage to the South Pacific. After a considerable time spent in fishing in the Atlantic, the ship arrived at the fishing ground in the Pacific, on the 20th of August last. In the morning of that day, whales were discovered in the

neighbourhood, and about noon they succeeded in striking one. Two boats had gone after the whales—the larboard and the starboard, the former commanded by the first mate, and the latter by Captain Deblois. The whale which they had struck was harpooned by the larboard boat. After running some time, the whale turned upon the boat, and, rushing at it with tremendous violence, lifted open its enormous jaws, and taking the boat in, actually crushed it into fragments as small as a common sized chair! Captain Deblois immediately struck for the scene of the disaster with the starboard boat, and succeeded, against all expectation, in rescuing the whole of the crew of the demolished boat, nine in number! There were now eighteen men in the starboard boat, consisting of the captain, the first mate, and the crews of both boats. The disaster had been witnessed from the ship, and the waist-boat was called into readiness and sent to their relief. As soon as the waist-boat arrived the crews were divided, and it was determined to pursue the same whale, and make another attack upon him. Accordingly they separated, and proceeded at some distance from each other, as is usual on such occasions, after the whale. In a short time, they came up to him, the waist-boat being in advance. As soon as the whale perceived the movement, he turned his course suddenly, and, making a tremendous dash at this boat, seized it with his jaws, and crushed it into atoms, allowing the men barely time to escape by throwing themselves into the sea, from which they were rescued with difficulty. Captain Deblois, then ordered the boat to put for the ship as speedily as possible, and they all got on board in safety. After reaching the ship, it was determined to pursue the whale. In a short time, the ship overtook him, and a lance was thrown into his head. The ship passed on by him, and immediately after they discovered that the whale was making for the ship. As he came up near her they hauled on the wind and suffered the monster to pass her. After he had fairly passed they kept off to overtake and attack him again. When the ship had reached within about fifty rods of him they discovered that the whale had settled down deep below the surface of the water, and as it was near sunset they resolved to give up the pursuit. Captain Deblois was at this time standing on the larboard bow, when he discovered the whale rushing towards the ship at the rate of fifteen knots. In an instant the monster struck her with tremendous violence, shaking her from stem to stern. Captain Deblois immediately descended into the forecabin, and there, to his horror, discovered that the monster had struck the ship about two feet from the keel, abreast the foremast, knocking a great hole entirely through her bottom, through which the water roared and rushed in impetuously. Springing to the deck he ordered the mate to cut away the anchors and get the cables overboard to keep the ship from sinking as she had a large quantity of pig-iron on board. In doing this, the mate succeeded in relieving only one anchor and cable clear, the other having been fastened around the foremast. The ship was then sinking very rapidly. The captain went into the cabin, where he found three feet of water; he, however, succeeded in procuring a chronometer, sextant, and chart. Reaching the decks, he ordered the boats to be cleared away, and to get water and provisions, as the ship was heeling over. He again descended to the cabin, but the water was rushing in so rapidly that he could procure nothing. He then came upon deck, ordered all hands into the boats, and was the last himself to leave the ship, which he did by throwing himself into the sea, and swimming to the nearest boat. The ship was on her beam ends, her topgallant yards under water. They then pushed off some distance from the ship, expecting her to sink in a very short time. Upon an examination of the stores they had been able to save, he discovered that they had only twelve quarts of water, and not a mouthful of provisions of any kind. The boats contained eleven men each, were leaky, and night coming on, they were obliged to bale them all night to keep them from sinking. Next morning at daybreak, they returned to the ship, from which they were able to obtain some bread and water; they then left her in a sinking condition. Two days afterwards

they providentially fell in with the ship "Nantucket," of Massachusetts, whose commander, captain Gibbs, took them on board, and treated them with the greatest hospitality. The "Nantucket" arrived at Païta on the 16th September, where she landed Captain Deblois and his men. Captain Deblois was kindly entertained at Païta by Captain Bathurst, an English gentleman, residing there, and subsequently took passage on board the schooner "Providence," for New Bedford, where he arrived on the 12th October.

An inquest was held on the 21st on the body of Henry Grady, *Accidentally Killed* on the 18th. He was a coke-raker in the service of the London Gas Company, Vauxhall, and was employed in the discharging of coals into the premises by means of trucks, which were pushed along a tramway from the waterside, when one of the vehicles by some means was forced over the iron stage at the end, and before he could get out of the way the truck, weighing nearly a ton, fell upon him, and crushed him to death. The accident was caused by the iron break giving way at the end of the stage.

A *Shocking Accident* occurred on the 17th, at Carnarvon. In a cottage built under the town wall, there was an aged woman, the wife of John Jones, a blacksmith, working in Mr. Smith's quarry, and seven of her children, including a married daughter, and her child, who had come to visit their parents. In a moment a portion of the scraping at the summit of the wall, measuring about ten yards long and three feet deep, and weighing about eight tons, fell on the roof, and crushed it in at a stroke. One of the children who was on the threshold was thrown at a distance from the house. The old woman and the other children, with the exception of the married daughter and her child, were speedily rescued from their perilous situation with a few bruises. The others remained, however, under the rubbish until about five o'clock, notwithstanding all the exertions made to recover them, and when found she was bent down in a sitting posture with the child in her lap, and the lives of both extinct. The rain, it is supposed, by moistening the earth and destroying the adhesive power of the mortar, caused the stones to unloose.

A *Collision* took place on the evening of Saturday, the 22nd, on the London and North-Western Railway, at Weedon, by which nearly all the passengers in the 4 o'clock up train from Rugby were more or less injured. The 4 o'clock train from Rugby due in London at half past 7, started from Rugby at its proper time, arriving in due course at the Weedon Station, at twenty-five minutes after 4. It was still daylight, and all the proper stopping signals were on at the station. At the Weedon Station there are no sidings, and the passenger train, in which was Captain Huish, the general manager, and Mr. Bruyeres, the chief superintendent, meeting with a coal train at the station, had to wait on the main up line until the coal train had been shunted on to the down line, to allow the passenger train to reach the platform of the Weedon Station and then pass on. The passenger train had reached the platform, and was discharging and receiving passengers, and the coal train was still shunting across just up above on to the down line, when an engine and cattle train of thirteen heavily laden carriages, dashed into the passenger train, breaking several of the nearest carriages, and also dashing the passenger train forward into the coal train, which had not yet entirely got across on to the down line, with such violence, as to knock several of the coal trucks completely over. A gentleman, named Currie, of Warrington, was taken out of a second-class carriage apparently lifeless, and was reported as dead, having sustained some frightful lacerations and injuries to the head. A second, in almost as bad a condition, was taken from the same carriage, and proved to be the servant of Colonel Sir Douglas Pennant, also a passenger. Mr. Cleaton, of Islington, was also taken out insensible, with several severe cuts about the head and face; and Mrs. Gower, of Oxford Street, was very much shook and injured. Most of the other passengers suffered more or less from wounds and contusions. Capt. Huish was himself very severely injured about the head and face, as was also Mr. Bruyeres, whose escape from death was truly miraculous. On the Rugby

train reaching the platform he got out, and at the moment of the collision was standing with his hand on the carriage-door, whilst Captain Huish had his head out of window conversing with him. A portion of another carriage, lifted off the rails, struck him on the shoulder, knocking him down, and he in turn knocking others down who were standing near him. He rolled towards the carriages still in motion, and had not a gentleman seized him by the coat, he must have fallen under the wheels and been cut to pieces. Mr. Currie is since dead. A coroner's inquest on his body commenced at Weedon on the 25th.

SOCIAL, SANITARY, AND MUNICIPAL PROGRESS.

THE Registrar-General's last Quarterly Return of Marriages, Births, and Deaths, comprises the births and deaths registered during the quarter ending September 30th, 1851, and the marriages in the quarter ended June 30th, 1851.

The marriages still exceed the average, but are less numerous than the marriages in the corresponding quarter of last year. The births continue to increase rapidly, and the mortality is below the average. The returns therefore present a favourable view of the state of the country.

38,498 *Marriages* were registered in the quarter ending June 30th. This is less by 520 than the number registered in the spring quarter of 1850, but more by 377 than the number in the spring quarter of 1848. The marriages only amounted to 30,048 in the spring quarter of 1842; they rose to 34,268 in the spring quarter of 1844; to 37,111 in the spring quarter of 1846; declined to 35,197 in 1847; and rose again to 39,018 in the spring quarter of 1850. Every marriage is the establishment of a family, and is generally the result of some deliberation; it is not surprising, therefore, that the prosperity of the country and the prospects of the people should be expressed pretty accurately by the fluctuations in the marriage returns.

While the marriages increased rapidly in some parts, they were stationary or decreased in others. In London 6515 couples were married, which exceeds the number married in the summer of 1848 by 1106. In Surrey out of London, in Sussex, Kent, and Berkshire, the marriages were nearly stationary. In Hampshire they decreased. In the South Midland, the Eastern Counties, as well as in Wiltshire, Dorsetshire, and Devonshire, marriage was stationary or decreased. In Cornwall and Somersetshire there was an increase. In Gloucestershire marriage was stationary. In Herefordshire and Shropshire the numbers married were unprecedentedly low. In Staffordshire, Worcestershire, and Warwickshire—including the chief seats of the Midland iron trade—the marriages increased. The marriages rose from 383 in 1848 to 487 in Birmingham. In Leicestershire, Rutlandshire, and Lincolnshire, the marriages were below, in Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire above, the average number; the excess occurring chiefly in the districts of Nottingham, Chesterfield, and Hayfield. The marriages in Cheshire and Lancashire decreased. The decrease was considerable in Liverpool, and greater still in Manchester. In the West Riding of Yorkshire there is an excess; and this is most conspicuous in Sheffield, where the marriages in the five summer quarters ending June, 1847-51 were 283, 273, 289, 339, and 404. In Leeds, the marriages were 351 in the June quarter of 1848; 530 and 487 in the corresponding quarters of 1850 and 1851. In Hull the marriages increased from 147 in the June quarter of the cholera year 1849 to 175 in 1850, but have fallen again to 158. The marriages decreased in the North Riding of Yorkshire, in Northumberland, and Cumberland; increased in the coal districts of Durham. In Monmouthshire and Wales marriages were less frequent than in 1850.

It has been observed that the marriages increase after a fatal epidemic; and in the present return the marriages, it is seen, have been in excess generally where cholera was most fatal in 1849.

150,584 *Births* have been registered in the quarter ending September 30th, 1851. This is the greatest number of births ever registered in the same season of the year, and exceeds by 23,411, and 15,361, and 3614, the births in the September quarters of 1847, 1849, and 1850. The births of 467,096 children have already been registered, and it is probable that in the year the numbers will not fall short of 600,000. The increase is distributed over all the divisions of the country except the South Midland.

In respect to *Population*, it is observed that, while 150,584 children were born and registered in the summer quarter, 91,600 persons died; leaving an excess of 58,984 in the population. The excess of births over deaths in the first nine months of the present year has been 170,411, which is probably more than equivalent to the actual increase of the population. It is well known that up to a late period there has been a constant immigration of the Irish and Scotch into England, which appears to have been fully equivalent to the emigration of the English into the colonies and to foreign parts; but no exact statistical information on this subject exists. 85,603 emigrants left the ports of the United Kingdom at which there are government emigration officers in the quarter ending September 30th, 1851. This is at the rate of 930 a day; 6510 a week. 13,963 sailed from Irish ports, 4378 from Glasgow and Greenock, and 67,262 from three English ports, namely, 10,062 from London, 2799 from Plymouth, and 54,401 from Liverpool. Many of the Irish emigrants are returned at Liverpool. Of the total number 68,960 emigrants sailed to the United States, 9268 to British North America, 6097 to the Australian colonies, and 1278 to other places. The emigration has hitherto been greater in 1851, than it was in the corresponding quarters of 1850.

The *Health* of different parts of the country differs widely, and the difference is greatest in summer. In the ten summer quarters of 1841-50 the mortality in 506 districts, comprising, when the census was taken, 10,126,886 people, was at the rate of 18.15 in 1000 annually; while in 117 districts, comprising the chief towns, and 7,795,882 people, the mortality was at the rate of 25 in 1000 annually. Thus, at least, 7 in every 25 deaths which occur in towns are the result of artificial causes. The mortality in the quarter ending September, 1851, was at the rate of 23 and 17.93 in 1000 in the two groups of districts; it was a little below the average in the country, and considerably below the average in the towns. The annual rate of mortality per cent. in all England was, on the average of ten summers, 2.099; in the summer quarter of 1851 it was 2.020. London has enjoyed a degree of health above the average in the last summer quarter; 13,064 deaths were registered, which is a less number than was registered in the summer quarters of 1847 and 1848, and half the number (27,172) registered in the summer quarter of 1849, when cholera was epidemic. During the three months of July, August, and September, more people have passed through or resided temporarily in London, with its 2,361,640 inhabitants, than ever passed through any city before in the same time. The past experience of large armies, or of the pilgrimages of the east and of the middle ages, might have justified the sinister forebodings which some entertained; but the railways and the improvement in sanitary arrangements have now rendered it possible to move the masses of men about in thousands and millions without danger to the public health, as the event has here proved. The South-eastern division of the country has been less healthy than last year; diarrhoea, typhus fever, and scarlatina being prevalent. The South Midland division was generally healthy. Oxford suffered heavily; Cambridge, on the other hand, was unusually healthy. In the Eastern and the South-western divisions the mortality was below the average; in the West Midland and North Midland, the health was as good as usual. The North-western division constantly suffers more than the other divisions of England; but in this summer it is above its own average. The registrar of the division says—"The improved health, and, it may be added, temper of the people of the district, may assuredly be ascribed to the cheapness of provisions, which are not

only abundant but also of better quality, because the temptation to adulterate food is not so great." In Yorkshire, the mortality has been above the average; and the same has been the case in the mining districts of South Wales.

Under an order of the Common Council, a return has been made of all moneys raised by the Corporation for public works in the Metropolis out the *corporate duties levied in the port of London*, since they were first imposed by Parliament in 1766. The accounts show the sums raised under the three specific heads of works "situate in the City of London," works "situate without the City," and works "of a mixed character, being for the benefit of the City as well as the adjoining districts."

In the first class of works, "situate in the City," the large items are 250,000*l.* for making Farringdon Street, removing Fleet Market, and erecting Farringdon Market; 223,578*l.* for enlarging the site of the Royal Exchange after the destruction of the building by fire in 1838, including the widening of the adjacent streets, the removing of St. Benet Fink Church, &c.; 94,167*l.* for building the new Coal-Market; and 500,000*l.* for forming new lines of streets from King William Street, London Bridge, to St. Paul's Cathedral, from Cannon Street to Queen Street, and from Queen Street to St. Paul's Churchyard, and also for improving Holborn Bridge and Field Lane, &c. All these sums were intrusted to the Corporation of London. The total of the sums raised under this head is 1,117,345*l.* 13*s.* 6*d.*; and of this sum only 9000*l.* (intrusted to the Commissioners of Sewers) was not placed under the management of the corporation.

Under the second head, of improvements "situate without the City," the large items are 11,000*l.* intrusted to the Justices of the Peace of Middlesex towards building a new Sessions-house for the County of Middlesex; 665,000*l.* intrusted to the Commissioners of Woods and Forests for the various improvements of Cranbourne Street, Upper Wellington Street, Endell Street, New Oxford Street, Commercial Street in Whitechapel, and Victoria Street in Westminster; 25,000*l.* intrusted to the Clerkenwell Improvement Commissioners, for carrying on Farringdon Street northwards to Clerkenwell Green; and 88,000*l.* intrusted to the Corporation of London for further extending the last street to Coppice Row, Clerkenwell. The total of the sum under this head is 807,500*l.*

Under the third head, improvements "of a mixed character, being for the benefit of the City as well as the adjoining districts," are 210,000*l.* for building Blackfriars Bridge; 50,000*l.* for rebuilding Newgate; 30,000*l.* for redeeming the toll on London Bridge; 40,000*l.* for completing Newgate, and adding a Sessions-house for London and Middlesex; 246,300*l.* for street improvements near Temple Bar (Pickett Street, Strand), and near Holborn Bridge (Skinner Street); 95,000*l.* for White Cross Street Prison; 80,000*l.* for the site of the General Post Office, and improving the adjacent streets; and lastly, 1,016,421*l.* 18*s.* 1*d.* for new approaches to London Bridge in Southwark, and new approaches to the same bridge in the City, with some other minor matters. All these sums were intrusted to the corporation. The total under this head is 1,813,221*l.* 18*s.* 1*d.*

The whole sum raised since 1766 for improvements "in the City," "without the City," and "of a mixed character," is 3,738,067*l.* 11*s.* 7*d.* The corporation were intrusted with the management of more than 3,000,000*l.*

The *Final Report of the Royal Commissioners of the Great Exhibition* has been published. It states, that the money received by the commission has been, in round numbers, 505,000*l.*; that nearly all the claims on this fund have been discharged; but that when the whole have been discharged there will remain a surplus which the commission "have reason to believe will not be less than 150,000*l.*" The commissioners are advised that "their powers under the royal charter will cease when all the expenses incidental to the commission shall have been discharged, and notice given thereof to her Majesty's Secretary of State;" and that they "have not the power of deciding upon

the disposal of the surplus." Under these circumstances, they point out, that of the entrance-fees a portion has been paid by foreigners; that the enormous number of 6,000,000 visits made to the Exhibition were owing to the fact that the contributions of "all nations" were there displayed; and that the commission originally engaged to apply any surplus "to purposes strictly in connexion with the ends of the Exhibition, or for the establishment of similar exhibitions for the future." Application of the surplus for "the last-named purpose," they think not advisable; considering, among other reasons, "the impossibility of fixing beforehand any definite period for the repetition of such an exhibition, which requires for its success so many concurrent circumstances." They think that more benefit may be derived by the public from a judicious application of the surplus, "in the interval," to "the furtherance of the general objects" for which the Exhibition was designed, "in such a manner that the advantages which may be obtained should not be confined solely to her Majesty's subjects, but be shared, as far as it may be possible, by other countries." If it should be the pleasure of her Majesty by royal charter to grant the commission such further powers as may be necessary, the commissioners offer to give the fullest and most careful consideration to the important and difficult subject of "devising a comprehensive plan" to meet the full objects of the Great Exhibition in the disposition of the surplus it has produced.

The executive committee of the *Great Exhibition* have issued a notice, in which they state that they have received the instructions of her Majesty's commissioners to announce that the possession of the building will be given up to Messrs Fox, Henderson, and Co., the contractors, on the 1st of December next. On that day the staff of the executive committee will be withdrawn, and the cranes, platforms, and various appliances for assisting the exhibitors removed. Her Majesty and Prince Albert lately paid a short and somewhat unexpected visit to the Exhibition building, having come up from Windsor expressly for the purpose. What seemed to engage most of the Queen's notice was the building itself. Her Majesty was evidently much struck with the view which the interior of the building even now presents, and was heard to express herself in warm terms of admiration.

The medals awarded to the *French Exhibitors* have been sent to Paris, to be distributed amongst the successful competitors. The number of honorary distinctions of all kinds awarded was 5084, of which 2039 were given to British, and 3054 to foreign exhibitors, whilst the space occupied was in the proportion of three-fifths for British and two-fifths for foreign goods. Of the 166 council medals awarded, 87 went to foreign exhibitors, and 79 to British. The "prize medals" were given in the ratio of 1244 to British, and 1632 to foreign, and the honourable mentions were as 716 British to 1326 foreign. A large proportion of the foreign distinctions were, as is known, borne away by the French, but it must be recollected they were the most numerous of the foreign exhibitors. It is a curious and significant fact, that 88 of the 166 council medals were awarded for machinery alone, in which, and manufactures in metal, glass, and porcelain, the British exhibitors gained more prizes than all the foreign nations combined. It turns out that if foreigners have borne off more than a proportionate share of awards in the fine arts and fabrics requiring taste and delicate manipulation in their construction, they have been greatly excelled in the production of those important manufactures which constitute the main sources of our national prosperity and wealth.

At the meeting of the London Farmers' Club, on the 3rd inst., the question of the *Influence of Beer-shops on the Population*, was introduced by Mr. W. F. Hobbs, who stated, as the result of his own observation, that nothing was so detrimental to the condition of the labourer himself, so destructive to the happiness of his family, or so injurious to the interests of his employer, as the present beer-shop system. Beer-shops were the resorts of poachers, thieves, receivers of stolen goods, and burglars, and he believed that three-fourths of the crime which was chargeable to the agricultural popula-

tion might be traced to the demoralising and degrading influences of these places. The following resolution was adopted: "That the effect of the present beer-shop system is to deteriorate in the greatest degree the character and value of the agricultural labourer, tending as it does to encourage habits of idleness, dissipation, and dishonesty. That as all other classes necessarily suffered, it became the duty of every one to use his utmost exertions to hasten the suppression of these sources of crime. And that in the opinion of this club the labourer should have every opportunity given him for brewing the beer he requires, or for procuring it on fairer or cheaper terms, and that the retention of the malt-tax is to him, as a consumer of that which his labour produces, both a serious oppression and a direct injustice." In the course of the discussion it was stated that three out of four fellows concerned in the Uckfield burglaries and the Frimley murder, had at one time been ploughboys in Sussex, and that their career in crime had been traced from the beer-shop.

At a meeting of the managing committee of *King's College Hospital*, on the 6th inst., it was stated that the number of patients who now annually receive relief in the hospital, or from its medical staff, is between twenty-five and twenty-eight thousand; but that the receipts of the institution have fallen so short of its requirements, the committee had no funds in hand for the discharge of the last year's liabilities. The statement embodies a very powerful claim for the assistance of the affluent, both on the ground of charity to the diseased poor, and that of sympathy with the success of the medical school of King's College; much of the high standing of which is of course dependent on the practical facilities for studying disease afforded by a large hospital, with its well-organised staff of surgical and medical officers.

An *Atlantic Packet Station* is about to be established at Galway. Mr. Wagstaff, one of the most extensive steam-shipowners in New York, has visited Galway, where he attended a meeting of the Town and Harbour Commissioners on the 8th inst., when he announced his intention of commencing operations at once for the transmission of goods and passengers between America and Ireland. He stated that the first vessel would sail on the 15th of December, from New York, and arrive in Galway on the 23d. The directors of the Dublin and Galway Railway have determined to construct an electric telegraph along their railway, so that on the arrival of Mr. Wagstaff's steamers in Galway, the American intelligence may be at once transmitted to Dublin and London, anticipating the news brought by the New York and Liverpool steam-ships.

A plan for a *Central Railway Terminus* in the city of London, originally proposed by Mr. Charles Pearson, so far back as 1837, has again been brought forward by him, and has been entertained by the Common Council. At a meeting on the 12th inst., Mr. Pearson explained his plan. He proposed to fill up the valley of the Fleet by a trunk railway of several lines of rail, on the existing level of the valley; over the railway, upon vaulted arches, he will build a new street from Farringdon Street to Clerkenwell, on the margin of which shall be arranged rows of houses, and markets for meat and vegetables. The railway will be in immediate connexion with the Great Western, North-western, Northern, and North-eastern lines; and will afford the means to upwards of twenty thousand merchants and clerks living out of the city to go to and fro between their residences and the city, at a cost of 3*l.* a year; and it will bring meat and vegetables direct by the railway-trucks on which they are loaded in the provinces, to improved markets close to the hands of the population who require them. Mr. Pearson stated that he has had detailed estimates made, and they limit the sum necessary to carry out the scheme—after allowing for the value of the improved rentals—to 500,000*l.* At another meeting on the following day, it was resolved by a great majority that the plan be referred to a ward committee, and that the committee have power to give the necessary parliamentary notices for carrying the plan into effect in case the court shall ultimately decide in its favour.

The pageant of the *Lord Mayor's Day* took place on

the 10th inst., the regular day, the 9th, happening to be Sunday. The new Lord Mayor, Mr. William Hunter, introduced some novelty into the display. The "man in armour" was multiplied into twenty or more men in armour from Astley's theatre. The procession is thus described by a daily paper:—"Immediately after the Town-Clerk and Chamberlain, came a troop of the Twelfth Lancers; six halberdiers followed on foot; and then rode 'a knight in armour of the reign of Francis the First,' preceded and followed by two esquires bearing banners. More Lancers, mounted esquires, and halberdiers, then preceded 'a knight of the City of London, in armour of the reign of Henry the Eighth, mounted on a charger, plumed, with scarlet, white, and gold trappings, with the city arms emblazoned thereon.' Then came a group with a mounted knight of the Sheriff of Middlesex, in armour of the reign of Francis the First, 'plumed, with white, amber, and gold trappings, with the Sheriff's arms emblazoned thereon;' and there was another group with a second knight for the other Sheriff, 'plumed, with gold and green coloured trappings.' After the late Lord Mayor's carriage, there followed 'a mounted knight of the Lord Mayor, in armour of the reign of Francis the First, 'plumed, with rich amber and bright scarlet velvet trappings, with the arms of the late Lord Mayor emblazoned thereon.' Then more Lancers, halberdiers, and esquires; and then 'a troop of twenty knights, three abreast, armed in armour of the reigns of Henry the Eighth and Francis the First, plumed, with richly decorated trappings.' Some more esquires, and some more modern Lancers, completed the advanced guard of the Lady Mayoress, whose carriage now followed. Some Life Guards, and the gentlemen of the Mayor's household, immediately preceded the carriage of the Lord Mayor himself, which was drawn by the usual complement of six bay horses. Other officers, a detachment of Lancers, and a body of mounted police, formed the rear-guard of the procession." Some casualties happened, but not of a serious kind. One of the armed knights, having too heavy a helmet on, or too much beer, in his head, fell off his horse, and was carried home, his place being left vacant. The crowd in the streets was even greater than usual, and the people cheered and laughed at the steel-clad champions with great good humour. A pleasant incident is told of the Lord Mayor. While he was waiting for his carriage, after the disembarkation at Blackfriars Bridge, an urchin in the front of the crowd asked his companion, "Is that the Lord Mayor?" "Yes, my little man," said the good-natured dignitary, "I am the Lord Mayor now, and you may be Lord Mayor some of these days."

The *Submarine Telegraph* across the Channel is now in operation. The wires were carried on from their termination on the coast at the South Foreland, into the town of Dover, on the 13th inst.; and direct communication between Paris and London is only interrupted now by the half-mile of distance between the offices of the Telegraph Company and those of the Railway Company in Dover. A salute to the Duke of Wellington, at the moment of his departure from Dover, was fired on the instant by gentlemen at Calais; and a message with the price of the Funds in London at the opening of business that day was sent to Paris, and received on the Bourse in full business hours. The news of the important division of the French Assembly on the electoral bill, on the 13th, appeared in the earliest editions of the London papers on the following morning, having been received on the evening of the 13th in an hour and a half from Paris.

It is announced that a treaty of *International Copyright* has at last been concluded between England and France, and was signed on the 3d inst. at Paris by the Marquis of Normanby on the part of England, and Count Turgot on the part of France. Its principal points are stated to be,—1, an absolute prohibition of literary piracy in the two countries; 2, the prohibition in both countries of the importation of piracies of the works of either from other countries; 3, the same protection to musical compositions, designs, paintings, sculpture, and other artistic productions, as to books; 4, protection to translations of original works, published in either country, when made by or for the author—also

translations of works published in other countries; 5, the assimilation of dramatic productions to books, and the protection of them accordingly.

A new *Westminster Bridge* is to be erected as near as possible to the present structure. Notices have been given to the inhabitants of the north end of Bridge-street, Westminster, of Manchester buildings, of Cannon-street, up to the Board of Control, and other portions of the east end of Parliament-street, that government were prepared to bring in a bill next session to pull down their houses to make room for the new bridge.

Prince Albert has addressed a letter to the Society of Arts, suggesting a *Course of Lectures on the Probable Results of the Great Exhibition of Industry*. The council of the society have adopted the suggestion; and have issued the following prospectus of the "first part" of an intended course of lectures:—"Nov. 26. Rev. W. Whewell, D.D., F.R.S., Master of Trinity, Inaugural Lecture on the general bearing of the Exhibition on the Progress of Art and Science.—Dec. 2. Sir H. De la Beche, C.B., F.R.S., Mining, Quarrying, and Metallurgical Processes and Products.—Dec. 10. Professor Richard Owen, F.R.S., Animal Raw Products.—Dec. 17. Jacob Bell, Esq., M.P., Chemical and Pharmaceutical Processes and Products.—Jan. 7, 1852. Dr. Lyon Playfair, F.R.S., on the Chemical Principles involved in the Manufactures shown at the Exhibition, as a proof of the necessity of an Industrial Education.—Jan. 14. Professor J. Lindley, F.R.S., Substances used as Food.—Jan. 21. Professor Edward Solly, F.R.S., on the Vegetable Substances used in the Arts and Manufactures in relation to Commerce generally.—Jan. 28. Rev. Professor B. Willis, F.R.S., Machines and Tools for Working in Metal, Wood, and other Materials.—Feb. 4. J. Glaisher, Esq., F.R.S., Philosophical Instruments and Processes.—Feb. 11. Richard Hensman, Esq., Machinery and Civil Engineering generally.—Feb. 18. Captain Washington, R.N., Shipping, particularly Life Boats, in Class VIII.—March 3. Professor J. Forbes Royle, F.R.S., the Manufactures of India."

The Board of Trade *Returns of Exports and Imports* for the month, and for that portion of the whole year which ended on the 10th October, have been issued. The exports of the month have fallen short of the same month in last year by 87,840*l.*, but still exceed those of the same month in 1849 by 720,000*l.* The exports of the past nine months are very largely greater than those of the same months in the previously unparalleled year 1850: the excess was 3,218,576*l.* In the three years 1849, '50, '51, the exports of periods of nine months ending on the 10th of October were 44,830,414*l.*, 50,286,402*l.*, and 53,504,974*l.* In the imports there is a large increase of wool, and an increase of hemp, but a decrease of other articles of raw material; a large increase of bread-stuffs and provisions, and of tea, cocoa and tobacco, but a decrease in coffee, sugar, and wines. There has been a diminished importation of almost all kinds of dyes and dyeing stuffs; also of leather manufactures, and of oils (with the exception of train-oil) and seeds. Metals show an increase in iron, lead, and tin, and a decrease in copper and spelter; glass manufactures, an increase in plate and ornamental glass, and a decrease in other sorts. Guano, hides, and timber, all show an increase.

The City Improvement Commissioners have given the occupiers of the houses in St. Thomas Apostle, Bow Lane, Great and Little Distaff Lane, and the other thoroughfares lying between Queen Street, Cheapside, and the south side of St. Paul's Churchyard, notice that their dwellings will be required to come down forthwith, in order to complete the new street from London Bridge to St. Paul's Churchyard.

A parliamentary blue-book has just been printed, containing Lieut.-Colonel Jebb's *Report on the Discipline and Management of Convicts for the year 1850*. On the 31st December last, there were 6128 convicts accommodated. Of this number, 2269 were in separate confinement, 2639 employed on public works, 694 in invalid depots, and 516 in the juvenile prison at Parkhurst. There was accommodation, as it is termed, at the end of the year, for 6481 convicts. On the 1st of January, 1850, there were, in the convict establishments

5292, and the number received in the year was 2940. In the year, 2495 were disposed of, leaving, as already stated, 6128 in the prisons. In the same year, (1850,) the number transported was 2092, of which 1386 were sent to Van Dieman's Land with tickets of leave; 384 to Western Australia for public works, 938 to Norfolk Island as incorrigible, and 284 for public works at Bermuda. There were 14 removed to lunatic asylums, and 13 to the Philanthropic Society's Farm School. There were 247 pardons granted in the year, of which 11 were free, 20 conditional, 105 on medical grounds, and 111 on the expiration of a moiety of sentence under a rule. There were 13 escapes and 116 deaths. In Millbank, the average expense was 24*l.* 19*s.* 7*d.* per head. Pentonville, 25*l.* 9*s.*; Portland, 23*l.* 15*s.* 8*d.*; hulks, 22*l.* 4*s.* 10*d.* In Millbank, the earnings of the prisoners averaged 2*s.* 15*s.* 5*d.*; in Pentonville, 3*s.* 19*s.* 11*d.*; Portland, 15*l.* 19*s.*; and in the hulks, 8*l.* 6*s.* 10*d.* The average cost of each prisoner a year in England and Wales, was 21*l.* 13*s.* 3*d.*

The friends of the *Freehold Land Movement* held their third Annual Conference on the 24th. The meeting was very numerous, and the various Freehold Land Societies were represented by their officers. The Report laid before, and adopted by the Meeting gives a concise and comprehensive view of the progress of the movement:—"The council of the union, in presenting their second annual report, cannot but congratulate you upon the present position of the Freehold Land movements. Since your meeting in Birmingham, twelve months ago, many of the prejudices and objections which existed have become nonentities, or numbered amongst the follies that were, and the effervescent excitement of some over-zealous friends have found their level; and the grand principles involved in your operations have been consolidated and strengthened, and are now being duly appreciated by all classes. During the year more than 20 new societies have been formed under the most favourable auspices, and a great number of public meetings have been held, 51 of which have been attended by your secretary, and as many more he has found himself unable to accept invitations from; and the council have not been in a position to supply the demand: indeed, it appears that had they been enabled to send an advocate, no one would have been so acceptable as your secretary, as his personal attendance is invariably insisted upon. The council again call the attention of the conference to the absolute necessity of assistance in this department. The council have to complain of the negligence of the secretaries of the societies in not filling up the printed form sent them, by which an accurate statistical table of immense importance could have been supplied to this conference of the various particulars required. There are more than 100 societies in England and Wales, from 62 only of which returns have been made. Forming, however, our calculations with the greatest care from those received as to the remaining societies, we shall find there are 45,000 members subscribing for 65,000 shares; 150 estates have been purchased, 12,000 allotments made, 400,000*l.* actually received, and upwards of 2,000,000*l.* sterling being subscribed for! These figures, compared with those of last year, show an increase of more than 20 societies, 15,000 members, and 25,000 shares. The actual receipts have exceeded not only all preceding years, but are 60,000*l.* more than the total sum before subscribed; or, in other words, the receipts since your last meeting have reached the magnificent sum of 230,000*l.*, or nearly a quarter of a million sterling. The council require no other facts to impress you with the value and importance of this movement. The council have viewed with much anxiety and care the discussions now going on in reference to the mode of allotting shares, which question they earnestly entreat the conference to coolly and deliberately discuss, and whatever differences of opinion may exist upon this subject, they entertain no fears that you will not let any other than friendly feelings guide your arguments, so that the issue may lead to (if practicable) an uniform mode of allotment. The council refer with exultation to the triumph achieved by freehold land societies in the revising barristers' courts; everywhere the most desperate efforts have been made to disfranchise those qualified by these institutions, and

everywhere they have signally failed. In Warwickshire, Derbyshire, Hertfordshire, Bedfordshire, Staffordshire, the battles were fought by the opponents with a determination that betrayed a last effort, but all was unavailing, every paid-up allottee was declared qualified, and their names now grace the registration lists of those counties; and the council urge upon every gentleman present the necessity of calling the attention of the solicitors, secretaries, and committees of every society, to see that each qualified man makes his claim. The council feel happy in making known to you that Ireland is likely to be blessed by the freehold land movement. Already there are being organised in that country institutions applying our principle to agricultural purposes, and this, if properly carried out, cannot but confer upon Ireland a benefit that shall be lasting in its effects." The report was unanimously adopted.

PERSONAL NARRATIVE.

THE tenth birth-day of the Prince of Wales, the 9th instant, was celebrated at Windsor, with the usual festivities.

The Queen and Prince Albert, with the royal family, left Windsor, on the 22nd, for Osborne.

Earl Fitzwilliam has been elected a Knight of the Garter.

Mr. Benjamin Hawes, late Under-Secretary for the Colonies, has been appointed Under-Secretary at War, in place of Mr. Sullivan, who retires. Mr. F. Peel is appointed Under-Secretary for the Colonies.

Mr. Alison has been re-elected Lord Rector of the University of Glasgow.

Lord John Russell has granted 500*l.* to Lieutenant Pim, from the Treasury, towards paying his expenses to Siberia in search of Sir John Franklin. Captain Spencer Robbins, a Foreign Service Messenger, has been appointed by Lord Palmerston to accompany Lieutenant Pim, R.N., as far as St. Petersburg, on his expedition.

Christopher Temple, Esq., has been appointed Chancellor of the County Palatine of Durham, in room of Sir Richard Kindersley, appointed a Vice-Chancellor.

Dr. Newman has been elected President of the Irish Catholic University.

The Duke of Argyll has been elected Chancellor of the University of St. Andrew's, in the room of Viscount Melville.

The Duke of Northumberland has given orders for the construction of a thousand new and comfortable dwellings, for the labourers on His Grace's estates in Northumberland.

Motions of votes of *Thanks to the late Lord Mayor*. Sir John Musgrove, in the court of aldermen and court of common council, have encountered considerable hostility. In the court of aldermen, on the 18th, alderman Wilson moved thanks to the late Lord Mayor, generally, for the zeal, ability, and judgment with which he had discharged his duties; and particularly for the manner in which he had sustained the dignity of the office on the late occasion of the Queen's visit to the Corporation at Guildhall, and for the manner in which he had maintained the civic hospitalities of the city. Much discussion ensued; the Mayor's conduct in regard to the Queen's visit, the visit of the Corporation to Paris, and other matters; and ultimately it was agreed that the motion should pass, after being stripped of the particular praises added to the general tribute in the first sentence. In the court of common council, the motion of thanks was met by an amendment, proposed by Mr. de Jersey, censuring the chief magistrate of the City of London for sanctioning a desecration of the Sabbath, by taking part in the fêtes of Versailles on that day. Mr. de Jersey's motion, not being seconded, fell to the ground, and the original vote of thanks was carried by 118 to 8.

The *Address to M. Kossuth*, voted by the Corporation of London, was presented to him on the 30th of October, in the Guildhall. It was his desire that his visit to the city should be as private and quiet as possible; but, in

his way from his residence in Eaton Place, he was enthusiastically cheered by vast multitudes of people, in the streets and windows. On entering the Guildhall, he was received by the Lord Mayor and Corporation, and the address was read and presented with the usual formalities. M. Kossuth made an eloquent reply. He expressed his gratitude for the honour done him by the Corporation, and the sympathy expressed by thousands as he passed along the streets; he eulogised the greatness, freedom, and social order of England, mainly defended by her municipal institutions. With regard to his own objects, he said he did not wish to engage their sympathy for the purpose of armed intervention in the cause of Hungary, but to excite them to express an opinion that Hungarian freedom was worthy of their approbation and ought to prevail. "I have often (he said,) repeated the humble request, let your sympathies and your wishes not remain barren. When I spoke that, I intended not to ask England to take up arms for the restoration of Hungary to its independence and liberties. No, gentlemen, that is the affair of Hungary itself; we will provide for our own freedom. All I wish is, that the public opinion of England may establish it to be a ruling principle of the politics of Europe to acknowledge the right of every nation to dispose of its own internal concerns, and not to give a charter to the Czar to dispose of the fate of nations, and so not to allow the interference of Russia in the domestic concerns either of Hungary, or of whatever other nations on the continent, because the principles of freedom are in harmony, and I love—I am interested in—the freedom of all other countries as well as of my own. These are the words which I again and again will repeat here in England, and there in the United States, from a most honoured member of which I have had the honour to hear principles, which once quite carried into effect, would and will give liberty to the world. I have heard it proclaimed from an honoured citizen of the United States, the honoured object of the sympathy and confidence of a great part of his countrymen, even a candidate to become the chief magistrate of the United States—I have heard him in answer to my appeal, declare that he believes the younger brother of the English race very heartily will give his hand to England to protect oppressed nations, not admitting interference with their domestic affairs." "Do not (he exclaimed in conclusion) grant a charter to the Czar to dispose of humanity. Do not grant a charter to the despots to drown liberty in Europe's blood. Save the myriads who else would bleed, and be the liberators of the world." M. Kossuth was often interrupted by bursts of cheering, and as he sat down the excited audience greeted him with shouts, again and again renewed. After a few moments' pause, he quitted the hall, and returned through the crowded streets, amidst renewed demonstrations of popularity, to Eaton Place.

An *Address* was presented to Kossuth, on the 31st ult. by a deputation from the French "proscrits" now in London. The address professed to be from "Republicans, Revolutionists, and Socialists,"—men, "consequently not attracted towards you by either the élat of your title or the renown of your name." It above all felicitated Kossuth on his letter to the city of Marseilles. In his reply, M. Kossuth acknowledged that he wished he could have traversed France—"But Louis Napoleon has contrived that the French Republic, which has proscribed its founders, should no longer be an asylum, nor even a place of refuge, for republicans of other countries. My address to the city of Marseilles has made known that in my heart I should not make France responsible for the inhospitality of Louis Bonaparte." He declared himself "convinced that there is nothing possible henceforth in Europe but the republic based on universal suffrage, with the principle of the solidarity of peoples and the independence of nations." He added—"If I have not manifested in England that thought which I expressed at Marseilles, it is because I do not wish to interfere in the affairs of a country which gives me hospitality, and whose assistance I desire for the future of Hungary; for which, I repeat, I wish the republic based upon universal suffrage."

On the 3rd inst. there was an immense assemblage of the working classes of the metropolis, in Copenhagen

Fields, to present an *Address* to Kossuth. The people assembled in Russell Square; in consequence of an invitation from the "Central Demonstration Committee," and walked in procession to Copenhagen Fields, where they were met by M. Kossuth, with a party of his friends. He addressed the multitude from a balcony of Copenhagen House, in a long and eloquent speech, which could be heard only by a small portion of the assembly, but is fully reported in the journals of the day. It is estimated that 25,000 persons were present. The utmost enthusiasm, and at the same time perfect order, prevailed. In the evening the committee with a number of their friends dined at the Highbury Barn Tavern, but Kossuth was not present. The company consisted chiefly of the working classes. Mr. Thornton Hunt, the chairman of the committee, presided, and there were present, Mr. Feargus O'Connor, M.P., M. Louis Blanc, Mr. G. W. M. Reynolds, Mr. Bronterre O'Brien, Mr. G. F. Holyoake, Mr. Ruffey, Mr. Waller, Mr. Nicholls, Mr. Pettie (the secretary), and several other members of the committee.

A deputation from the Society of the Friends of Italy, headed by Mr. F. A. Taylor, presented an *Address* to Kossuth on the 5th. In his reply Kossuth pronounced a warm eulogy on Mazzini, and expressed his sympathy with the cause of Italian freedom.

In pursuance of previous arrangements, Kossuth visited Birmingham and Manchester on the 10th and 11th. On his journey from London thousands of people assembled at Wolverton, Coventry, and other places on the road, who hailed him as he passed, with great enthusiasm. He was received at Birmingham by Mr. Geach, Mr. Scholefield, and Mr. Muntz, the members of Parliament, and by a committee appointed for that purpose. A procession of the trades of Birmingham was formed to accompany him in his progress through the town. In its nucleus it consisted of chosen "fifties" from the various trades, bearing the banner of their association; but the "fifty" was in every instance swelled to hundreds of thousands, all the manufacturing districts, from far away into the Potteries, and even Sheffield, having sent their large quotas of deputed men. At the head of the *cortège* were men bearing the flags of England, Hungary, America, Turkey, Italy, and Poland; and the old standard of the Political Union, so famous in the years of the Reform agitation. Kossuth's carriage was surrounded by a body-guard of 150 gentlemen on horseback; and near it marched a body of Hungarians bearing the Hungarian standard, and another band of one hundred Frenchmen. A little before Kossuth entered the principal part of the town, his carriage was stopped, and the entire procession marched past him, that all might gain a sight of him. All the exertions of his body-guard were necessary to restrain the enthusiasm of the people. The procession necessarily moved slowly, and was many times stopped in consequence of the enormous pressure on every side. As it approached the Bull Ring, the mass of people was such that it was fearful to look upon: it was one vast sea of human heads as far as the eye could reach; every nook, every gullet, every alley, and every lane, every window, and every parapet, presented their hundreds of the population. From the corner of the Coventry Road to the Bull Ring occupied nearly one hour, so slow was the progress made. As the *cortège* turned out of New Street the effect was very fine: there were impromptu scaffolds, bearing hundreds of people; omnibuses at anchor crowded even to the tire of the wheels; from Deritend to the Town Hall there was scarcely a window without a banner, and from the hands of thousands of ladies streamed ribands of the Hungarian tricolor. Triumphant arches overspread the streets. The numbers present are variously estimated, from a hundred thousand to half-a-million; the medium number may perhaps be taken. The procession reached the "Five Ways" at four o'clock, and soon afterwards Mr. Geach expressed the gratitude of M. Kossuth; explained that the state of his chest forbade any attempt to address them in the open air; and gave the signal of dispersion. The carriages then drove off, amid the deafening shouts of the multitude.

On the following day, Kossuth's reception at Manchester, though less regularly organised, was equally

enthusiastic and imposing. Several Hungarians were among those who waited his arrival at the station. They embraced him in a most impassioned manner; and a lady among them, after kissing his hand repeatedly with fervour, presented to him her child for his notice; M. Kossuth kissed the child, and returned it to the proud mother. Mr. Henry and Mr. Kershaw, members of Parliament, were at the head of a numerous deputation from the committee of reception. From the railway station the *cortège* took the way to Piccadilly and Market Street; but the crowds of people were so immense, that it was difficult, with all the aid the police could give, to make way through them. The numbers who filled the streets, windows, and balconies, were even greater than those assembled at Birmingham. But the most remarkable proof of the public sympathy in Manchester was given in the number of applications for tickets to be present in the Free Trade Hall, to hear Kossuth speak: the committee consisted of a thousand of the first names in the locality, and the applications they received for tickets, from persons of all shades in politics, exceeded one hundred thousand. Of these the hall, though it is the largest building of the kind in the world, would not contain more than about seven thousand. In hopes of a glimpse, or an occasional tone, vast numbers thronged all the avenues to the building, and waited patiently to the end of the meeting.

An *Address* from the people of Manchester was presented by Mr. Bright; and addresses were then presented by delegates from Ashton, Liverpool, Bury, Burnley, Denton, Halifax, Heywood, Rochdale, the Staffordshire Potteries, Stockport and Wrexham; Kossuth replied at considerable length and with his usual eloquence; and the meeting separated, after having voted thanks to the Sultan of Turkey, and the government and people of the United States for their practical sympathy with Kossuth.

On the 12th, Kossuth returned to Birmingham, and a *Grand Banquet* was given to him in the Town Hall. The tickets of admission were a sovereign each, and nearly a thousand persons sat down to dinner. Kossuth's health was given by Mr. Scholefield; and his speech in acknowledgment of the toast was one of the most powerful of his oratorical efforts. Speeches were made by M. Pulszky, Mr. George Dawson, Mr. Muntz and others; and the enthusiastic tone of the meeting was sustained till it broke up at midnight.

Addresses from the metropolitan boroughs of Westminster, Southwark, Marylebone, Lambeth, and Finsbury, were presented to Kossuth on the 13th at a meeting held for that purpose at the Hanover-square Rooms. An address was also presented from "the Ladies' Association." In making his acknowledgments, Kossuth gave this last address the precedence. "You must allow me," he said, "to answer the ladies first, because politeness and the warm sentiments they have expressed require me to do so. Ladies, you have a glorious lot assigned to you by destiny—for the Author of Nature has decreed that every man, whomsoever he may be, whatever his condition, whatever his fate, should bear throughout his life the seal which the angelic hand of a mother has impressed upon him. The ladies of a country mirror his character. They are our refuge from the cares of life; and when we fall into adversity, where do we withdraw for consolation, but to you and to your sympathies? I speak as I found them. And if the struggle for a noble cause is unhappily surrounded with difficulties unforeseen, where is the source from which man draws new strength? Your approbation, ladies, your smile. God bless you, ladies, for having given me this approbation. Here, I swear before you and the Almighty God that you have added strength to my strength, and that I will go on in my work to the last moment of my life, truly, honestly, and energetically."—This being his last opportunity of addressing the people of England, he desired to make a final declaration of his principles. "There is not one of them," he said, "which is not connected with the victory or the downfall of the principle of the liberty in the world. When the public opinion of England proceeds to put in action those lovers of the omnipotency of public spirit which were moved to secure progress and reform, when you are dealing with any internal ques-

tion, I humbly entreat you to remember that all such matters are connected with the freedom of the world. If there be going on an agitation for reform, whatever reform it may be, remember that reform will never and nowhere have a free course if the power of absolutism continues encroaching. If meetings assemble to pass resolutions on reform questions—and it is not for me to say what those questions may be—I only ask for my country the right which I concede to Englishmen of managing their internal affairs. I speak generally. Remember what I say. Because we are convinced that it is only a fair course of reform and progress which can secure the world against concussions dangerous to social order and to the great and holy principles of security to person and property, and because we feel that reform and progress nowhere can have a fair course while the principle of absolutism is permitted to encroach upon mankind's destinies; therefore we humbly petition the Parliament and the government of this country that the rights of every nation may be respected by England, and respected by every power in the world." He said in conclusion: "Some of the addresses which have been read remind me of the martyrs who fell in the cause of Hungary. I thank you for your warm and generous sentiments towards them. I have known those martyrs, they were my friends, and I, who knew their sentiments, tell you, gentlemen, that if there be a tie between those regions where angels dwell and this earth, and if they know what is passing here below—these martyrs in the cause of Hungary will in spirit rejoice that out of their blood has sprung up already an accident—no, not an accident but a blessing—which will secure the freedom of the world—and if, in consequence, there has sprung up a brotherhood amongst nations they will be consoled, because that time will be the future of my native land. With great gratitude I see that you and the United States do not look upon each other, as you did some time ago, with sentiments of revenge, but with a feeling of brotherhood. And what is brotherhood? is it not that which is laid down in the eternal word of God, which teaches 'that you should love your neighbour as yourself.' Out of this single fact I prophesy that the high principle of individual morals will in future be the morals of nations." On the same evening the ball in aid of the distressed Polish and Hungarian refugees took place at the Guildhall. Of course the great source of attraction was Kossuth, who, with Madame Kossuth, was present. His reception was most enthusiastic. The ladies waved their handkerchiefs, and the gentlemen crowded round, if possible to shake hands with the distinguished guest. M. Kossuth, with his lady, was escorted by the Lord Mayor, sheriffs, and aldermen to the dais, where he remained for a short time exchanging courtesies with the company, but the crowd became so great, and the anxiety to see him so manifest, that he was obliged to retire to the concert room, when an arrangement was made, by which, as in the case of the Queen's visit, the company defiled past

him, bowing as reverently as if he were the most potent sovereign in Europe.

Kossuth has received addresses from the corporations or inhabitants of the following places; Ashton-under-Lyne, Barnsley, Bath, Bedford, Bingley, Birmingham, Boston, Bradford, Bridgewater, Brighton, Bristol, Burnley, Burslem (Potteries), Bury, Canterbury, Cambridge, Clerkenwell, Cork, Coventry, Croydon, Cupar-Fife, Derby, Deal, Dover, Dundee, Dunfermline, Finsbury, Glasgow, Halifax, Huddersfield, Ilkerton, Islington, Kidderminster, Lambeth, Leeds, Leicester, St. Leonard's (Shoreditch), Liverpool, Llanidloes, London, Manchester, Marylebone, Northampton, Nottingham, Oldham, Paisley, Pancras, Preston, Rochdale, Sheffield, Southampton, Southwark, Stafford, Stockport, Sunderland, Tonbridge, Taunton, Wakefield, Warwick, West Hackney, Westminster, Wick, Woolwich, Worcester, Wrexham.

On the 20th Kossuth sailed from Southampton for the United States. He was accompanied by Madame Kossuth, his children remaining in this country. M. and Madame Pulszky were also his companions on the voyage.

Obituary of Notable Persons.

THE RIGHT HON. CHARLES HOPE, late Lord President of the Scottish Court of Session, died in Edinburgh on the 30th ult., at the age of 88.

SIR EDWARD CROMWELL DISBROW, G.C.H., died on the 29th ult., at the Hague, where he was the accredited Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary from the Court of Great Britain.

WILLIAM WYON, R.A., for many years chief engraver at the Royal Mint, died on the 29th ult., at Brighton, after a long illness.

M^r. MATTHIAS ATTWOOD, the banker, well known for his opinions on the subject of enlarging the currency, died at Dulwich, on the 9th inst.

THE HON. H^l. MANVERS PIERREFONT died on the 10th inst., at Thoresby Park, aged 71. He was the father of Lady Charles Wellesley, and brother to the Earl Manvers, at whose seat he died.

LORD MACKENZIE, one of the Judges of the Courts of Session and Justiciary in Scotland, died on the 17th inst. at Belleville, near Edinburgh. He was a son of Henry Mackenzie, the author of "The Man of Feeling," and other celebrated works.

LORD DE BLAQUIERE died by his own hand on the night of the 11th inst., at Beulah Villa, Norwood. He was dreadfully afflicted with calculus in the bladder, and it appears shot himself in a paroxysm of agony from that disease. A coroner's inquest found a verdict of "temporary insanity."

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL PAXTER, C.B., who lately retired from the command of the 24th Regiment, died at Bath on the 13th inst., in the 40th year of his age.

M^r. GEORGE MAULE, the Solicitor to the Treasury, died a few days since at his residence in Wilton Crescent, after a short illness, in his 76th year. He had for many years filled the above responsible situation.

LADY WARD, whose marriage with Lord Ward took place only a few months ago, died at Schwalbach, in Nassau, on the 14th inst.

SIR HORACE B. SEYMOUR, M.P., died at Brighton, on the 23rd inst., in his 61st year.

COLONIES AND DEPENDENCIES.

A FOURTH Presidency, it is announced, is about to be created for the better government of India. It is to be called the Government of Lahore, and will comprise (among other territories) Scinde and the Punjab. The most startling part of the design is that which suggests the removal of the seat of the Supreme Government to one of the capitals of the new presidency; and should this be realised, Calcutta will become merely the outpost of a Lieutenant-Governor, while Simlah, not three years ago the capital of our most distant and determined foes, will become the central station of English power and domination in India.

The *Overland Mail from Bombay*, of the 17th of October, has brought no news of interest. A rumour was current that the Governor-General has a project for creating a new Presidency of Lahore, and for removing the seat of Government from Calcutta to Simlah.

The accounts from *Sydney* are to the middle of August. They relate chiefly to the gold region of Bathurst. The most remarkable facts are the peaceable

and orderly behaviour of the miners, the discovery of gold in divers new regions, and the upturning in the Turon diggings of a larger mass of ore than had previously been discovered in the world. A lump of auriferous quartz, which weighed nearly three hundred-weight, and when crushed by the tomahawk yielded gold weighing 102 pounds, 9 ounces, 5 pennyweights, had been discovered by a Mr. Sutor, and was valued to him at about four thousand pounds sterling.

The *Sydney* papers give an account of a meeting held in that city on the 29th July, where those who attended bound themselves to accept no settlement of the transportation question other than the rescinding the Order in Council by which any part of Australia is made a place to which offenders may be transported. From the further official correspondence just issued on the subject of Convict Discipline and Transportation, it appears that this desire of the people of Sydney had been already complied with, at the time they were thus expressing it. On the 4th July Lord Grey had transmitted to Governor Fitzroy an Order in Council, dated 25th June, 1851, revoking, so far as concerns the colony of New South Wales, the Order in Council of the 4th September, 1848, appointing places to which felons and other offenders might be conveyed.

The intelligence from the *Cape of Good Hope* is to the 1st of October. Its general tenor varies scarcely anything from that of the accounts received a long time past. Four severe engagements with bodies under the chiefs Macomo and Seyolo, amounting to upwards of two thousand men each, and several skirmishes, had been fought within a single fortnight; and yet there were no marked results. In one of those encounters, a party of our troops had, by a mishap, suffered an unusual fatality. Captain Oldham, a man of equal bravery and skill, with eight dragoons of the 2d Regiment, had lost his way in the thick bush of a valley, whence a party of our troops were driving the enemy, and they had all been cut to pieces. Proof of their determined resistance was found around them in numbers of Caffre corpses pierced by their bullets, bayonets, and swords. All these combats had taken place in two particular districts—the Fish River Bush, and the Kaga Mountains; elsewhere there was little fighting, and there seemed to be fewer of the enemy. Some additional security had been felt from the detachment of Major Wilmot to the command of the district of Lower Albany, with a considerable force of infantry and cavalry. There are no further accounts from the Orange River Sovereignty.

PROGRESS OF EMIGRATION AND COLONISATION.

The government of Spain has made a grant of land in that country, to be colonised by *Irish Settlers*. It consists of 250 square miles, containing about 160,000 acres on the banks of the Guadalquivir, in Andalusia and Estremadura; a district depopulated by the expulsion of the Moors, and never successfully occupied. A depu-

tation of London merchants interested in the trade with Spain, and members of the projected Peninsular Colonisation Company, waited on Mr. Labouchere on Friday, for the purpose of submitting for his consideration the grounds upon which they requested the grant of a charter of incorporation to the company. The case made by the deputation was, that the existing desire of emigration in Ireland ought to be taken advantage of, with a view to a more favourable location of the emigrants than beyond the Atlantic. They said, that the tract given by the Spanish government would afford the most tempting inducements to colonisation, from its agricultural capabilities, and the healthiness of the climate. Mr. Labouchere, after having given the statements made to him the most courteous attention, said, a difficulty which appeared to him almost insuperable, arose on a point of constitutional, or rather international law as connected with the grant of a charter incorporating a company having for its object the colonisation of any portion of a foreign territory. But though on this head he entertained a very strong opinion, he was not adverse to giving a subject of such interest to Ireland the best consideration in his power.

The current of *Emigration from Ireland* runs as strongly as it did during the months of spring and summer. The arrivals of emigrants in Dublin do not appear to be quite so numerous, yet the leading shipbrokers find it difficult enough to provide accommodation for the applicants for passage who swarm the offices along the quays and docks. On one day, above sixty cartloads of peasants from the counties of Tipperary and Kilkenny arrived in Waterford, to take shipping for Liverpool, to go to America. In most instances they appeared of the better class, and were well and comfortably clothed. Among them were several old men and women, who were going doubtless to join their relatives. From the north riding of the same county, it appears by a local paper, that the guardians of the Nenagh Union have come to a unanimous determination to further thin the population by promoting the emigration of paupers to the Australian colonies. It is in contemplation to send 1000 at least of the able-bodied and youthful paupers, the majority of whom are to be females. Accounts from Canada and New Brunswick state that able-bodied paupers recently sent out from Irish workhouses have been at once absorbed in the labour-market, and that work could have been readily found for many more. News has come of the arrival of 200 Irish emigrants at Peru; where they have made engagements to work for seven years.

NARRATIVE OF FOREIGN EVENTS.

NEVER has war raged so fiercely as at present between the authorities to whose almost equally balanced powers the unhappily devised Constitution of France has committed the working of the state. No man can at present see more of the issue than that each day brings nearer and nearer the probability of an ultimate appeal to force. In other directions, Continental politics present few topics for remark; but the death of the King of Hanover, and the opinions it has elicited as to the character of the deceased prince, may be pointed to as an emphatic proof of how low the prevailing estimate has become of the moral and intellectual qualities of German sovereigns. Ernest Augustus is lamented as the only king in Germany who, during the late eventful years, preserved the attributes of respect, or fulfilled his royal word.

The National Assembly of *France* commenced its session on the 4th inst., when M. Thorigny, the Minister of the Interior, read the President's Message, a document of great length, containing a view of the internal condition of France, her foreign relations, and the policy of the government. In the exordium, the message pictures the peaceful attitude of the country, but at the same time warns the Assembly not to flatter itself with illusions on the "appearance of tranquillity." "A vast demagogical conspiracy is now organising in France and Europe. Secret societies are endeavouring to extend their ramifications even into the smallest communes. All the madness and violence of party is brought forth: while these men are not even agreed on persons or things, they are agreed to meet in 1852, not to construct, but to overthrow. Your patriotism

and your courage, with which I shall endeavour to keep pace, will, I am sure, save France from the danger wherewith she is threatened." In the section of the Interior some details are given to fill up this general picture. "At Lyons, a strong and unique system of police has been organised, embracing twelve towns or suburban communes." "The government has found itself under the necessity of revoking in one year 501 elective functionaries, of whom 278 were mayors and 123 adjoints. The dissolutions of Municipal Councils were 126, those of National Guards 139." The commercial and agricultural state of the country is described as improving, and its financial condition is said to be "as favourable as can be expected, considering the engagements of the past, and the uncertainties of the future." The most important part of the document, is

the *Resumé*, in which the president propounds his views and objects. His duty, he says, is "inflexibly to maintain order; it is to banish all causes of agitation, in order that the resolutions which are to decide our fate may be conceived amidst calm and adopted without contest. These resolutions can emanate only from a decisive act of the national sovereignty, since they are all based on the popular election." This serves to introduce his proposed change in the electoral law, by restoring universal suffrage. "You will have presented to you," he says, "the draught of a law which restores that principle in all its fullness; retaining at the same time from the law of the 31st of May everything which winnows universal suffrage from impure elements, and which makes its application more moral and regular. The project has consequently no features which can possibly hurt the feelings of this Assembly; for if I think it expedient to ask to-day for the withdrawal of the law of the 31st of May, I do not mean to deny the approbation which I paid at that time to the initiative taken by the Cabinet which contested with the chiefs of the majority, whose work this law was, the honour of presenting it. On the contrary, I am ready to acknowledge the salutary effects produced by it."

"If we remember the circumstances under which this law was presented, we shall not, I believe, refuse to avow that it was a political act rather than an electoral law; that it was really and truly a measure of public benefit. Whenever the majority shall propose to me energetic measures for the safety of the country, it may rely on my loyal and disinterested support. But the best of measures for the public welfare have but a limited existence. The law of the 31st of May has, in its application, even gone beyond the object intended to be attained. No one foresaw the suppression of 3,000,000 electors, two-thirds of whom are peaceful inhabitants of the country. What has been the result? Why, that this immense exclusion has served as a pretext to the anarchical party, who cloak their detestable designs beneath the appearance of a right which has been withdrawn, and which ought to be reconquered. Too weak in numbers to take possession of society by their votes, they hope, under favour of the general excitement and the decline of the powers of the state, to kindle, in several points of France at once, troubles which would be quelled, no doubt, but which would throw us into fresh complications. Independently of these dangers, the law of the 31st of May, presents as an electoral law grave inconveniences. I have never ceased to believe that a day would come when it would be my duty to propose its repeal. Defective when applied to the election of an Assembly, it is still more so in the case of nominating a President; for though a residence of three years in a commune may have appeared a guarantee of discernment imposed on electors in the knowledge of those who are to represent them, so long a term of residence cannot be considered necessary for the appreciation of the candidate destined to the government of France. Another serious objection is this. The Constitution requires for the validity of the election of a President by the people, at least 2,000,000 suffrages, and if this number is not collected, the right of election passes to the Assembly. The Constituent Assembly had therefore decided that, out of 10,000,000 voters inscribed on the lists, one-fifth was sufficient to render the election valid. At the present time, the number of electors being reduced to 7,000,000, to require 2,000,000 is to invert the proportion—that is to say, it is to demand almost one-third, instead of one-fifth, and thus in a certain eventuality to take the election out of the hands of the people to give it to the Assembly. It is, therefore, positively changing the conditions of eligibility for the President of the Republic. Lastly, I call your particular attention to another reason, which perhaps may prove decisive. The re-establishment of universal suffrage on its principal basis furnishes an additional chance of obtaining the revision of the Constitution. You have not forgotten why the adversaries of this revision refused last session to vote for it. They urged this argument, which they knew how to render specious—'The Constitution,' they said, 'which is the work of an Assembly taking its rise in universal

suffrage, cannot be modified by an Assembly issuing from a restricted suffrage.' Whether or not this be a real motive or a pretext only, it is expedient to set it aside, and to be able to say to those who would bind the country down to an immutable Constitution, 'Behold universal suffrage re-established: the majority of the Assembly, supported by 2,000,000 petitioners, by the greater number of the Councils of Arrondissement, and almost unanimously by the Councils-General, demands the revision of the fundamental compact. Have you less confidence than we in the expression of the popular will?' The question, therefore, may be thus stated to all who desire a pacific solution of the difficulties of the day.—The law of the 31st of May has its imperfections; but even were it perfect, should it not, nevertheless, be repealed if it is to prevent the revision of the Constitution, the manifest wish of the country? It is objected, I am aware, that on my part these proposals are inspired by personal interest. My conduct for the last three years ought to repel such an allegation. The welfare of the country, I repeat, will always be the sole moving spring of my conduct. I believe it my duty to propose every means of conciliation, and to use every effort to bring about a pacific, regular, and legal solution, whatever may be its issue."

When M. Thiorigny had finished reading the message, he submitted a project of law for the complete abrogation of the law of 31st of May, 1850, and for the re-establishment of the electoral law of 15th of March, 1849, under which all citizens of age, who have resided six months in the commune, are declared electors. M. Thiorigny "demanded urgency"—the immediate consideration of this project of law. This proposition was violently opposed by the great majority of the right and centre, and at last rejected. On the 18th, the committee on the ministerial project presented their report, which was hostile to the measure. On the 13th the Bill was discussed, and, after a violent debate, it was thrown out by 355 to 348, a majority of 7 against it. On the 17th, a *projet* by the questors for defining the right of the Assembly to call out the troops necessary for its protection, and to dispose of those troops by naming its own general over them, came to be discussed in the Assembly. The formal question was, whether or not the project should be brought under consideration. The right of the Assembly to demand the force necessary for its defence, was originally asserted on the 11th of May, 1848, by a decree posted in the barracks by the provisional government, before the constituent assembly had been organised. The words of that decree were very general; they asserted the prerogative of the Assembly to call out the forces necessary for its defence, and they raised the inference that the Assembly should also marshal the troops so called out at its own will. When the constitution was framed, the right thus asserted for the Assembly was formally but not very precisely embodied; at least, the clauses on this subject do not give the Assembly the power to appoint its own separate general over the troops it may appropriate for its defence. The proposition of the questors defined the right in such a manner as to make the power of the Assembly over the national force original and direct, without the intervention of the war-office, and uncontrolled by the central executive. The discussion in the Assembly was extremely violent, and the result was favourable to the government in an unexpected degree; for the Assembly, by a majority of 408 against 300, refused to take the proposition of the questors into consideration. Another important discussion has taken place in the Assembly, on the Municipal Bill, to regulate the law of election in the communes. On the 20th, the proposition that a residence of two years should entitle citizens to the electoral franchise, was adopted by 344 votes to 218. Clauses have also been adopted, conferring the electoral right on officials and clergymen invested with their functions for life, and on persons serving in the army or navy, who have been drawn for the conscription in the commune, no matter what may have been the length of their residence.

The distribution of the medals awarded by the London Exhibition, on Sunday the 23rd, at the Louvre, gave rise to a violent popular disturbance. Louis Napoleon

presided on the occasion, attended by his ministers and the civil and military authorities. The defective arrangements for the accommodation of the public gave rise to great confusion. More than 3,000 tickets had been issued, and the saloon could hold only 1,200 persons. The rush when the doors opened was tremendous. With difficulty a passage was made for the President and the Jury, and more than half an hour was spent in vain efforts to establish something like order and silence. At length Louis Napoleon advanced to the front and made a sign with his hand that he wished to speak. He proposed that the meeting should be adjourned to a larger gallery, and the proposition was adopted. But it was found impracticable, owing to the noise and confusion of the crowd. The tumult was increasing, when Louis Napoleon, whose calmness and good humour were not for a moment discomposed, advanced once more, and said—"Gentlemen, I am most desirous of seeing you around me, and as near me as possible, on this interesting occasion. As, however, this cannot be the case, I beg to propose an adjournment of the proceedings to another day." This proposition was received with acclamations and cries of "*Vive le Président!*" The crowd then dispersed, and the President departed by the Tuileries.

At one moment the rumour flew about that an *emeute* had taken place. In a moment half a battalion of troops from the barracks on the Quai d'Orsay, half a battalion of the 49th from the Assumption, and half a battalion of the Gendarmier Mobile from St. Thomas de Louvre, assembled in the Place du Carrousel. The movement was effected in five minutes. Nothing, however, occurred to require their assistance; and, as soon as it was ascertained that the President had left, the troops returned to their barracks.

The Austrian government is continuing a course of terrible punishments by means of courts-martial. The court-martial sitting at Este has just added ten sentences of death by powder and ball, twelve of imprisonment in heavy irons for twenty years, four of similar imprisonment for eighteen years, and three of hard work on the fortifications for fifteen years. Field-Marshal Radetzky had dissolved the Common Council of Como, "for refusing, with indecent and disloyal language, to appear and do homage to the emperor on his late visit to Italy."

ERNEST, KING OF HANOVER, died at the palace of Herrenhausen on the 18th inst. His Majesty was the fifth son of George the Third, and was born on the 5th of June, 1771. In 1799 he was created Duke of Cumberland and Teviotdale, and Earl of Armagh. In 1815 he married the Princess Frederica of Mecklenburg Strelitz, widow of the Prince of Solms Bramfels. In 1837, on the death of William the Fourth, he succeeded, under the Salique Law of Hanover, to the Crown of that Kingdom. He is succeeded by his only surviving child, Prince George Frederick, who labours under the calamity of blindness. On this account the late king left his paternal directions, that twelve councillors should be sworn to attend perpetually, in rotation, two at a time, in order to read over to him every State document, and to attest his signature. The Gazette of North Germany, of the 18th inst., contains the royal patent announcing the death of the late king, and his son's accession to the throne. The young king pledges his royal word to "the inviolable maintenance of the constitution of the country;" he retains his ministry, and all his servants, clerical and lay; and assures them and his people of his "earnest desire to promote, with the help of the Almighty, to the utmost extent of his power, the welfare and happiness of his subjects." The patent is signed "George;" is countersigned by Munchausen, Lindemann, Kossing, Jacobi, Meyer, and Hammerstein.

The first act of the young king has been to make an entire change of the ministry. On the 22nd inst. the Munchausen cabinet received their dismissal. This is the more surprising, as the new king, only a few days before, had declared in the patent announcing his accession to the throne—"I retain in their present posts all my civil servants," and before a week elapsed the chief of these servants are dismissed. A ministry is

appointed, consisting of M. Schele, Premier and Minister of Foreign Affairs; M. Borries for the Interior; Windthorst for Justice; Backmeister for Worship; General Brandin for the War Department; the Finance Ministry remaining as yet vacant.

Advices from *Gibraltar* state that the piratical Moors of Fez had captured several vessels belonging to Spanish and British owners; among others the schooner *Emilia*, belonging to Messrs. Heredia, and the brigantine *Violet*, belonging to Mr. Cross, of Wisbech. Her Majesty's steam-frigate *Janus* started from Gibraltar on the 17th October, and reached the coast of the Riff on the 18th. She found the *Emilia* a wreck on the beach, stripped by the Moors. The boats of the Moors were totally destroyed by the boats of the *Janus*, with shot and shell; and then the *Janus* set out for Cape das Forcas. There she found the ribs of another vessel (the *Violet*), and prepared immediately to attack the Bedouins' boats. But the greater number of the Bedouins enabled them to keep up an overpowering fire, and the English were compelled to re-embark and retreat to the *Janus*. Commander Powell was shot through both thighs, but not dangerously; and seven men were wounded, four of them dangerously. Accounts from Melilla, of the 22nd October, state that the crew of an English brig are in the hands of the Moors, who demanded one hundred dollars for the ransom, and have been offered but sixty dollars. It is believed that this crew is that of the *Violet*, and that Mr. Cross, the owner, is himself one of the captives. Reparation, it is said, is to be demanded from the Emperor of Morocco.

The accounts from *Naples* mentioned several outrages on British subjects, and a system of uncivil and aggressive conduct towards them on the part of the authorities. A short time since a British passport was refused in Naples, and its owner sent away, because the police (without any proof), thought the traveller was a "dangerous person." Three or four English gentlemen, artists, were lately travelling in the Neapolitan provinces; they were arrested by the police, marched twenty miles between gendarmes, imprisoned and insulted. Eventually they were released, as their passports were perfectly *en règle*, and themselves perfectly innocent of any offence whatever. There was another case still stronger: Mr. Maudint, an Englishman, is the director and proprietor of oil works in the Albruzzi. His manufactory is in a small town called Monopclio. He lately left his works for a day or two, and on his return found the windows of his manufactory broken and his people in a great state of alarm. Some gendarmes had endeavoured to break into the building for the purpose of abusing the females employed in the works. Mr. Maudint, on learning the particulars of the case, applied to the authorities of the place, and requested the gendarmes might be arrested. He had scarcely returned home when two of the gendarmes entered and began to abuse him, stating that he was an enemy of the king. He asked, in what way? The men then thrust the royal arms of their uniform at his face, and used the most abusive language, which ended by placing handcuffs on Mr. Maudint, and marching him off to prison. Here he was insulted and struck, the irons still round his wrists. Two days afterwards he was released, having been informed that "there was no ground for his detention." He has applied to his minister at Naples, and, it is expected, will obtain redress.

Advices from *Madrid* state that, at the solicitation of Lord Howden, the English Minister at Madrid, the government of her Catholic Majesty have granted a free pardon to twenty-three misguided English subjects who were induced, by assurances, the falsehood of which was admitted by so many of the unhappy victims themselves, to take part in the expedition of General Lopez.

The advices from *New York* are to the 13th instant. The chief matter of political interest is the rejection by Mr. Webster of the terms proposed by Spain for the settlement of the Cuban difficulty, and for a better understanding between the two countries. The proposition was for the American government to invite the

Spanish consul to return to New Orleans; to bring him in a national vessel, and to salute the Spanish flag over him; and, further, to restore the value of the property of the consul, and of the Spanish citizens of New Orleans, which was destroyed by the rioters. In case this proposition should be rejected, the minister was instructed to demand his passports and return.

The expected arrival of Kossuth appears to create general interest.

There are advices from *Buenos Ayres* to the 5th of September. The most intense excitement prevailed as to the progress of the war. It appears that Urquiza

and the Brazilians have made a junction, and that the *Buenos Ayrean* General had lost 6000 horses and the baggage and artillery of one of the divisions without the firing of a gun. Oribe, driven to extremities, had requested the French Admiral to receive on board his vessels the Argentine troops, and convey them to *Buenos Ayres*. This was refused, and all the Oriental troops of Oribe's army have deserted, and even the Argentine troops refuse to fight, saying that they have had enough of it. The French and English admirals, after a conference, declared that they should not interfere, and it was feared that *Buenos Ayres* might be blockaded.

NARRATIVE OF LITERATURE AND ART.

AN important step has at last been taken in the direction of international copyright. A treaty has been signed between this country and France, which will extend its protection to all books, dramatic pieces, musical compositions, designs, paintings, sculpture and other artistic works, produced in either country after the present date. By this treaty all piracy in either country against the subjects of the other is absolutely prohibited; the importation, from other countries, of the piracies of the works of either country, is guarded against; and translations of original works published in either country, when made on account of or by the author, as well as translations, in either language, of works published in other countries, are proposed to be protected. The movement is said to have originated with the French, who, in these matters, suffer from their Belgian neighbours much more even than Englishmen from their transatlantic cousins; and who are now also bestirring themselves in equal earnest, and not less successfully, with Berlin and Hanover, and with Portugal, Spain, and Sardinia, in the hope of shaming Belgium at last into a place in the honest confederacy. Englishmen have, of course, the same motive to exert themselves in regard to America, but it is to be feared that the government of the Union is subject to influences which will prove stronger than either the wisdom of her statesmen, or the interest of her more intelligent citizens. Still, the arrangement which has just been made is the most decisive attempt to advance this great question which we have yet been called upon to record, and it would be difficult in that sense to overrate its importance.

In the department of general literature we have had some interesting publications during the past month. Sir James Stephen has collected his first two courses of Cambridge Lectures, delivered in his office of Professor of Modern History. The subject chosen is the *History of France*; the transition from feudal to absolute monarchy being traced out in the first course, while the second exhibits the peculiarities which attended the administration of that monarchy. Mr. Edward Arthur Litton has published a volume with considerable claims to attention on *The Church of Christ*, having particular reference to the controversy on the subject between Romanists and Protestants. The object of this book is to explain, at once with learning that shall satisfy the scholar and so popularly as to suit the general reader, the fundamental differences between Romanism and Protestantism as opposite systems of dogmatic theology. A smaller volume, by Mr. Isaac Taylor, on *Wesley and Methodism*, a companion to the same writer's book on *Loyola and the Jesuits*, will be not less welcome to religious readers. We have also to mention Mr. Anderson's interesting *Reminiscences of Doctor Chalmers*; a book of curious political Notes and reminiscences by an octogenarian baronet, Sir Robert Heron; a volume of clever military criticism and character on the Russian *Suwarroff*, by the late Major Macready; a small volume on *Elementary Physics* by Mr. Robert Hunt, of which the design is so far to give accurate information on every important fact and experimental inquiry connected with physics as to render all its great deductions from observation and experiment satisfactorily clear, without subjecting the reader to the difficulty of mathematics; a condensed *History of British India* by Mr. Mac Farlane, brought down to the close of the last Sikh war; a much more important work on a branch of the same subject, and which has had the advantage of the best authority now attainable in the papers of those who were chief actors in the scenes it relates, entitled a *History of the War in Afghanistan*, by Mr. Kaye; and finally, a new *Translation of Tasso*, by the Rev. Mr. Lesingham Smith.

Sir John Richardson's *Boat Voyage through Rupert Land* describes the result of his unsuccessful search for his friend Sir John Franklin, and is of course a valu-

able contribution to our knowledge of those coasts and seas. Lieutenant Walpole has published his travels and discoveries, some of which deserve to be called remarkable, among the *Anayriti*, or Assassins, the same book including *Travels in the further East*, and a visit to Nineveh. Upon the latter subject, Mr. Layard has also popularised his own account of his researches by a delightful condensation of his larger work on *Nineveh*. Mr. Edmund Spencer has published his travels in *European Turkey*, which contains a somewhat glowing account of the rich resources of Servia as a field for European emigration. And Mr. George Mely has presented us with an account of *Khartoum*, a small Nubian city built at the junction of the Blue and White Niles, to which very few English travellers appear to have hitherto found their way.

In the way of fiction, a small and thoughtful tale called *Visiting My Relations* is worth mention. The author of the *Two Old Men's Tales* has also added *Ravenscliffe* to her now lengthy series of very earnest novels and romances. To a new and promising story teller we owe the *Fair Caren*; and from an old circulating-library acquaintance, Miss Crumpe, we have received another fiction of Irish history, under the title of *The Death Flag*.

The Haymarket Theatre opened for the season, on the 17th; and the Princess's on the 22nd inst. The Haymarket continues to be to a considerable extent, an English Opera-house, the musical strength of the establishment has been increased, the principal singers being Mr. Harrison, Mr. Weiss, Mr. Durand (a promising debutant), Miss Louisa Pyne, Miss Pyne, and Madame Macfarren. The operas produced have been Macfarren's *King Charles the Second* (a work which does honour to the English School) and *The Beggar's Opera*. Mrs. Sterling has proved very attractive as the heroine of *The Ladies' Battle*, a version of Scribe's pleasant piece, *Un Duel en Amour*; and a farce called *The Two Bonny-castles*, by Morton, has been produced with immense success. At the Princess's, Bartley has been performing *Falstaff* in *The First Part of King Henry IV.*, and in *The Merry Wives of Windsor*.

COMMERCIAL RECORD.

BANKRUPTCIES.

Oct. 31st. B. WYON, Regent-street, engraver.—C. H. REYNOLDS and C. WITT, Cornhill, outfitters.—J. T. COULTER, jun., and W. DYER, Lombard-street, white-lead-makers.—J. FAIRBROTHER, Brighton, cowkeeper.—P. J. TUBB, Tottenham, draper.—C. S. VOULES, New Windsor, scrivener.—W. JONES, Castle-street, Finsbury, cabinet-maker.—E. CRUNTON, Holles-street, bookseller.—W. BATSON, Birmingham, iron-manufacturer.—J. JOHNSON, Wolsort, Warwickshire, coal-dealer.—J. M. BANFIELD and J. LEWIS, Devonport, wine-merchants.—J. TORDOFF, Pudsey, Yorkshire, Woollen-cloth-manufacturer.—T. WILSON, Lancliffe, Yorkshire, draper.—J. H. O. WILSON, Burton-in-Lonsdale, Yorkshire, draper.—C. READ, Great Grimsby, wine-merchant.—T. and J. TUCKER, Liverpool, ship-builders.—J. and T. DAY, Macclesfield, silk-manufacturers.

Nov. 4th. G. MAHON and W. S. MUMMERY, Avery Row, Bond-street, paper-stainers.—H. SANDERS, Upper Thames-street, cheesemonger.—E. JONES, Strand, woollen-draper.—R. H. CUMING, Lamb's Conduit-street, bookseller.—J. DREW, Hampton Gay, Oxfordshire, paper-maker.—W. JONES, New Road, White-chapel, cow-keeper.—T. EKIN, Cambridge, spirit-merchant.—W. EDWARDS, Brighton, carpenter.—J. FLETCHER, Dudley, publican.—T. GODDARD, Derby, brush-manufacturer.—J. ADAMS, Hammer, Flintshire, cheesemonger.—T. RAMSDEN, Chester, timber-merchant.—D. HOOD, Chorley, bleacher.

Nov. 7th. E. KITSON, Fenchurch-street, saddler.—J. B. L. BRUCKLAND, Threadneedle-street, insurance-agent.—G. SMITH, Walters' Buildings, Old Kent Road, corn-merchant.—A. R. STARR, Strood, ironmonger.—W. JAMES, Plumstead, builder. W. SIMMONS, Brighton, grocer.—A. RADCLIFFE, jun., Chichester Place, Gray's Inn Road, window-glass-merchant.—W. J. MIALI, Ingram Court, Fenchurch-street, cement-manufacturer.—F. F. BRAGGIOTTI, Highbury, merchant.—G. M. MOWBRAY, Hove, Sussex, builder.—J. TOY, Wolverhampton, innkeeper.—S. HALL, Tipton, miller.—J. PHILLIPS, Birmingham, druggist.—J. B. CADEY, Malmesbury, stationer.—C. ISAACS, Bristol, furrier.—H. CANNIFORD, Ottery St. Mary, Devonshire, innkeeper.—E. HINDLEY, Liverpool, coal-merchant.

Nov. 10th. C. GHERARDI and G. W. GILL, Strood, shipwrights. W. TURNER, Gravesend, butcher.—J. and J. KNIGHT, Walham Green, butchers.—W. HOLMES, Bedford-street, Poplar, builder. C. WHEELER, St. Martin's Lane, woollen-draper.—D. MACLEOD, Ealing.—F. SELFE, Sheerness, watchmaker.—H. THOMPSON, Belper, draper.—J. LICHFIELD, jun., Birmingham, butcher.—D. H. WALDRON, Birmingham, grocer.—J. WILMORE, Leicester, woollen-draper.—J. NICHOLAS, Newport, Monmouthshire, timber-merchant.—E. ANDREWS, Iwerne Courtney, otherwise Shroton, Dorsetshire, farmer.—M. RUSHWORTH, Huddersfield, milliner.—G. BEAR, Wakefield, innkeeper.—J. JOHNSON, Liverpool, grocer.—E. T. LEMING, Manchester, hosier.—J. ROBERTS, Rhyl, Flintshire, innkeeper.

Nov. 14th. R. BROWN, Gravel Lane, Southwark, basket-maker.—T. BRUCKLAND, Greenhithe, wine-merchant.—G. COOK, Tottenham Court Road, furniture-dealer.—J. BATE, New Windsor, builder.—W. LANCEFIELD, Camberwell, butcher.—H. SHUTLEWORTH, Saffron Walden, ironmonger.—M. T. S. WELSH, Romford, linen-draper.—H. HOGGINS, Addington Place, Camberwell, coach-builder.—W. LASLETT, Ash next Sandwich, hay-dealer.—N. D'ARCY, Pall Mall East, hotel-keeper.—T. B. BROWN, Handsworth, Staffordshire, blister-manufacturer.—E. ASHTON, Kingston-upon-Hull, woollen-draper.—J. CAJENS, Newport, Monmouthshire, banker.—D. E. MONIES, Liverpool, broker.—P. JONES, Llansattock, Monmouthshire.

Nov. 18th. S. and N. T. ISHERWOOD, Ludgate Hill, house-decorators.—T. J. LOUGH and C. W. LEWIS, Great St. Helen's, dyers.—W. WHITE, Winchester, builder.—G. WAKELING, Chelmsford, auctioneer.—S. ASHLIN, Eastcheap, cord-factor.—J. CUSTANER, Greenwich, miller.—A. MOUTAT, Creed Lane, wine-merchant.—R. W. DAGO, Chatham, victualler.—J. FULLER, Ely, stone-mason.—J. C. SANFORD, Paternoster Row, stationer.—J. WITWAM, jun., Huddersfield, woollen-cloth-manufacturer.—J. HILL, Thorne, Yorkshire, wine-merchant.—T. CARR, Doncaster, innkeeper.—R. COLLINS, Clitheroe, grocer.—J. ENTWISLE, Radcliffe, cotton-manufacturer.—T. F. WIGAN, check-manufacturer.

Nov. 21st. J. CUSTANER, (and not CUSTANER, as before advertised), Greenwich, miller.—T. PATIENT, Saffron, Walden, cooper.—A. BRADFORD, Assembly Row, Mile End Road, victualler.—S. SOLOMON, Strand, tailor.—H. WOOLLS and L. LYONS, Cripple-gate Buildings, umbrella-manufacturers.—W. EVANS, Banbury, ironmonger.—E. S. CLARKE, St. Mary's Cray, baker.—T. BARNJUN, Pall Mall East, wine-merchant.—W. ROBINSON, West Lynn, Norfolk, grocer.—J. T. JONES, Rathbone Place, warehousman.—W. KNOCK, Eton, nurseryman.—R. STANFORD and B. LEWIS, Wadsworth, Staffordshire, engineers.—T. ADAMS, Bridport, music-seller.—M. MUMFORD, Dittisham, Devonshire, miller.—H. LEGGOTT, Brigg, Lincolnshire, joiner.—W. PRITCHARD, Liverpool, tea-merchant.—J. S. RITSON, Liverpool, printer.

Nov. 25th. H. ADAMS, Hastings, Sussex, hardwareman.—R. ALLEN, Truro, Cornwall, wine-merchant.—A. CANSH, Liverpool, provision dealer.—J. J. HATCH, Friday-street, City, wholesalers furrier.—H. PINHOEN and R. PINHOEN, Southampton, tailors.—F. E. RIGBY, sen. and F. E. RIGBY, jun., Birkenhead, Cheshire, plumbers.—G. G. RUDEL, Devonshire-street, Queen-square, Bloomsbury, merchant.—J. SPALDING, Cambridge, ironmonger.

BANKRUPTCIES ANNULLED.

Oct. 28th. T. FISHER, Gower-street, piano-forte manufacturer.
Nov. 7th. W. BUDDLE, Irongate Wharf, Paddington, timber-merchant.—R. EDWARDS, Sudbury, Suffolk, linen draper.
Nov. 14th. H. LEWIN, Wellingborough, Northamptonshire, draper.

MONEY MARKET.

STOCKS.	Highest.	Lowest.	Latest.
Three per Cent. Consols . . .	99	97½	98½
Three per Cent. Reduced . . .	98½	96½	97½
Three and a quarter per Cents. .	99½	97½	98½
Long Annuities, Jan. 1860 . . .	7½	7	7½
Bank Stock, 7 per cent.	215	214	214½
India Stock	264½	262	264½
Exchequer Bills, £1000	57	51	53pm
India Bonds, £1000	63	57	63

FOREIGN FUNDS—LATEST PRICES.

Brazilian 5 per cent., 91½	Peruvian 5 per cent., 90½
Buenos Ayres 6 per cent., 56	Portuguese 4 per cent., 34½
Danish 5 per cent., 104½	Russian 4½ per cent., 103½
Dutch 4 p. c. certificates, 90½	Spanish 5 per cent., acc., 20½
Mexican 5 per cent., 23½	

Paid.	RAILWAYS.	Highest.	Lowest.	Latest.
100	Brighton and South Coast.	95	93	95
all	Blackwall.	7½	6½	7½
50	Caledonian	16½	11½	16½
20	Eastern Counties	6½	6	6½
50	Edinburgh and Glasgow . . .	28	26	27
all	Great Northern	17½	15½	17½
100	Great Western	85	81	84½
50	Hull and Selby	102	100½	102
100	Lancashire and Yorkshire . .	58	55½	57½
100	London & North-Western . . .	117	115	116½
100	Midland	56½	54½	56½
25	North British	7½	5½	7½
30	South-Eastern and Dover. . .	20½	18½	20½
100	South-Western	86	82	86
25	York, Newc., and Berwick . .	18½	17½	18½
50	York and North Midland . . .	21½	19½	21½

FOREIGN RAILWAYS—LATEST PRICES.

Doulogue and Amiens, 10½	Paris and Rouen, 23½
East Indian, 3 pm.	Paris and Strasbourg, 5½ dis.
Namur and Liege, 6½	Rouen and Havre, 8½
Northern of France, 14½	Tours and Nantes, 9½ dis.

CORN MARKET—LONDON WEEKLY AVERAGES.

Wheat, per qtr., 36s. 4d.; Oats, 17s. 5d.; Rye, 26s.; Beans, 28s. 8d.; Peas, 28s. 3d.; Flour (town made), delivered, per 280 lbs., 37s. to 40s.; American, per barrel of 196 lbs., 19s. to 22s.

PROVISIONS—LATEST WHOLESALE PRICES.

Bacon, per cwt.—Waterford, 42s. to 60s. Belfast, 55s. to 62s.	Eggs, per 120, French, 4s. 3d., to 6s. 9d.
Beef, per 8 lbs., mid. to prime, 2s. 4d. to 3s. 2d.	Hams, per cwt.—York or Cumberland, 50s. to 62s.; Irish, 60s. to 68s.; Westphalia, 48s. to 56s.
Butter, per cwt.—Carlow, 1st, 78s. to 86s.; Waterford, 1st, 76s. to 78s.; Dutch Friesland, 94s. to 96s.; Limerick, 1st, 72s. to 76s.	Mutton, per 8 lbs., 2s. 8d. to 3s. 6d.; Pork, per 8 lbs., 2s. 8d. to 3s. 10d.; American, new, per barrel, 46s. to 55s.
Cheese, per cwt., Cheshire, 42s. to 68s.; Derby, plain, 46s. to 54s.; Dutch, new Gouda, 26s. to 29s.; American, 30s. to 34s.	Veal, per 8 lbs., 2s. 4d. to 4s. Potatoes, per ton.—Kent and Essex Ware, 42s. to 76s.; Kent and Essex Middling, 20s. to 40s.; Chats, 23s. to 30s.

GROCERY—LATEST WHOLESALE PRICES.

Cocoa, per cwt., Ord. to good, red Trinidad, 35s. to 48s.; Brazil, 26s. to 28s.	Sago, per cwt.—Pearl, 15s. to 17s.
Coffee, per cwt.—Good ord., native Ceylon, 39s. to 40s.; Mocha, 80s. to 99s.; St. Domingo, 35s. to 40s.; Sumatra, 38s. to 37s.	Sugar, per cwt.—British West India, 29s. to 38s.; Mauritius, brown, 24s. to 30s.; Brazil, 26s. to 40s. 6d.
Rice, per cwt.—Bengal mid. to fine white, 8s. 6d. to 10s. 6d.; Madras, 7s. to 9s.	Tea, per lb. (duty 2s. 2½d.)—Ord. Congou, 8½d. to 1s. 6d.; Sou-chong, com. to fine, 9d. to 2s.; ord. to fine Hyson, 1s. 1d. to 2s.; Imperial, 1s. 3d. to 2s. 6d.

Candles, per 12 lbs. 4s. 6d. to 5s. | Coals, per ton, 15s. 3d. to 15s. 9d.

OILS.

Pale Seal, per 252 gals., 32l. to 32l. 10s.	Palm, per ton, 26l. 10s. to 27l. 10s.
Sperm, 84s. to 86l.	Olive, Gallipoli, 40l. to 41l.
Cod, 32l. 10s. to 33l.	

THE
HOUSEHOLD NARRATIVE
OF CURRENT EVENTS.

1852.] FROM THE 27TH NOVEMBER TO THE 29TH DECEMBER. [PRICE 2d.

THE THREE KINGDOMS.

OUR readers will not be surprised to learn that the decision of the Court of Exchequer, which has declared the "HOUSEHOLD NARRATIVE OF CURRENT EVENTS" to be a legal publication, was no surprise to us. We did not enter on our task without consideration, and for the judgment which has been given we waited with confidence. What the Court of Exchequer has declared by that judgment, is, that the "HOUSEHOLD NARRATIVE" belongs to the class of history rather than of news; and this exactly is the view in which it originated, and with which, in future Numbers, it will be more carefully and completely worked out. We desire it to be, in future, a perfectly impartial digest and record, that shall from month to month as faithfully keep note of the changing opinions, as it records the unchanging facts, which constitute the History of the time. Not subserving party politics, yet not excluding anything that claims to be a part of the actual interests of the day, our hope is to make it ultimately a not unwelcome or useless companion to the publication out of which it arose.

It will hereafter be asked with some interest, what kind of reception was given by public opinion in England to the act by which, early on the morning of the 2nd of December 1851, the elected President of the French Republic violated his oath of allegiance to the state, dissolved by force the National Assembly, drove through the streets at the point of the bayonet between two and three hundred representatives, deprived of their liberty the five greatest generals of France, conveyed in felon-vans to common prisons the most illustrious of living Frenchmen, suppressed half the newspapers throughout the country, gagged those which were not suppressed, cannonaded for five successive days the most respectable quarters of the city of Paris, slaughtered nearly three thousand citizens mostly of the better class, assumed such right over the class supposed to be dangerous as to transport them by thousands to the swamps and sands of Africa, let loose an infuriated soldiery throughout the various departments, exacted instant submission from every public agent under peril of the loss of his personal freedom as well as of his official appointment, enlisted as suddenly the entire confederacy of the Jesuits by hoisting a flag of duty to the Church over these acts of perjury and treason, and, finally, by means of an election proposed to a people forced (under pressure of half a million of bayonets) to the necessity of accepting or rejecting one name out of a population of thirty-five millions, obtained himself to be appointed Dictator for ten years, with a ministry irresponsible except to himself, with a Council of State and Senate nominated at his mere pleasure, and with a legislative body devoid of all power except to invest the will of the executive with what may pass for the forms of law. Such is the State-blow on which public opinion has just been invited everywhere but in the country struck and still reeling under it. With no intention to take part in that opinion while we simply record what has called for its expression, it is yet impossible to describe such an act in anything like plain language, without appearing to give utterance at the same time to the strongest judgment against it.

It has nevertheless elicited much approval of a certain kind in England. The morning paper possessing the most intimate confidence of the then chief of the Foreign Office, at once pronounced in its favour; and has since very zealously depicted its author as the selected instrument of Providence to bring about the salvation of France. The evening paper supposed to have hardly less interest in the same quarter, treated it as a mere act of self-defence against the National Assembly; and has continued to regard it as "a knock down blow" delivered with such sudden cleverness and quickness in the course of a "fair stand-up fight" as to demand rather praise than reprobation. Another evening paper professing opinions yet more liberal than its Whig competitor, has had even less scruple in frankly espousing M. Bonaparte as the redeemer of his country. A third evening paper, though holding him at arm's length as too much disposed to the Jesuits, has been greatly more willing to enlodge than to censure him. Another morning paper equally indisposed to any one favoured by the Pope, has adopted a similar tone. A third morning paper much in vogue with thirsty politicians, has declared for him yet more strongly and with fewer misgivings. Nor has a weekly paper which lays special claim to authoritative intercourse with the quidnuncs of Downing Street, been behind any of these in finding explanations and excuses for the overthrow of French liberty; while another weekly journalist in official and "economical" relations with the government has invited sympathy and admiration to it as a "sudden, bloodless, and beneficent" revolution, executed with skill, promptitude, and vigour; and, as a matter of course, the rank and file of weekly papers habitually favourable to military rule on the Continent, have found it a proper subject of congratulation. Of the Roman Catholic organs generally, now that the Pope has spoken, it is needless to speak; but it may be said of that particular newspaper which is supposed most correctly to represent ultramontane Catholicism in Ireland and England, that it did not hesitate, even before his holiness Pío Nono had publicly approved and blessed M. Bonaparte's enterprise, to proclaim its hearty sympathy with it, and to declare that in the judgment of no good Catholic had the President of the French Republic committed any perjury in overthrowing what he had sworn to uphold, provided only he had taken his oath originally "with a safe conscience."

From this brief summary it becomes obvious that no correct historian of public opinion in England will

hereafter be able to confirm what would seem, for a day or two after the first shock of the *coup d'état*, to have been the prevalent impression amongst us, namely, that with but one exception the English press had pronounced against its author. But on the other hand it may be said, that, while the somewhat motley variety of his supporters, and the very differing motives and reasons alleged for their support, are in themselves a confession that his act must be held, even by his advocates, either to soar above morality or sink below it, his public opponents in the English press have had no such discrepancies or differences to reconcile in the part they have taken against him. And though in number less than their opponents (excluding the country journals, which would greatly turn the scale in that respect), they so infinitely transcend them in importance, and in the thousands and tens of thousands of readers they represent, as to leave no doubt whatever of the vast weight and overwhelming preponderance of healthy English opinion which has through them definitively declared itself against the overthrow of liberty in France. At the same time the opinion thus expressed has been carefully restricted to a moral judgment on the acts and motives which stamped the character of the usurpation, and beyond this it has in no respect passed. There has been no clamour for interference with French affairs; no quixotic proposal to move lance-in-rest against those ever-moving, ever-shifting sails of French caprice, which may not improbably to-morrow fling down into the dust the man whom to-day they have lifted to a throne. The view taken has been, that while it is the duty of a public writer, through all the vicissitudes of political party, to maintain inviolate certain fixed principles by which alone any form of society can be honestly governed, it yet does not fall within his sphere to urge any hostile demonstration against a people who may appear content to place itself under a dictatorship based upon their outrage and overthrow. Nor would it be easy to say, in language that might not seem excessive, how nobly this line has been taken by the most powerful of English journals. Respecting, for what it may be worth, any government apparently acknowledged for the time by several millions of the French nation; no more desirous to take arms against illegal violence in France, than against legalised oppression in Germany or Russia: upholding the strict necessity of a maintenance of peace, upon the conditions of existing treaties and a complete forbearance from every hostile act: its writers have yet felt that they owed it to truth, to freedom, and to history, to demonstrate to the world, that in these late events every pledge of political duty has been broken; that their moving force has been an unworthy personal ambition, supported by foul and unscrupulous instruments; and that on such a basis it is impossible to conceive the establishment of a permanent or honourable power, since it repudiates by its very origin everything on which stability depends. And this they have enforced and reiterated in a series of articles, unbroken since Wednesday the 3rd of December, unsurpassed for eloquence and knowledge by any political writing in the language, and not unlikely to be remembered in England with some pride long after the fraud and violence so gallantly denounced shall have been expiated by the restoration of constitutional liberty to a people who have made mightier sacrifices for it than any other nation on the earth.

Meanwhile the offering-up of so illustrious a victim as Lord Palmerston to these altered fortunes of France, may show what wary walking the new state of the continent is likely to crave from statesmen of every country. Opinion has of course been busy on this remarkable incident; but the facts are as yet too imperfectly known to give importance to any judgment passed upon them. All that seems to rest on any good authority is the fact that the late Foreign Secretary had hastily committed himself to so hearty an approval of M. Bonaparte's *coup d'état*, as to involve a separation from colleagues who could not so readily be brought to regard with equal favour an act originating in treachery so revolting, and accompanied by such violence and cruelty. Incredible as it seems, that the most inveterate opponent of the continental despots should have fallen in the act of rejoicing over a new accession to the family, the fact appears to be admitted. It is supposed that the veteran statesman mistook the probable bearing of the new government of France, and too eagerly thought it possible to break the pride of the old despots by inviting a good understanding with a new and formidable competitor. Be this as it may, it is at least certain that Lord Palmerston has fallen by his own act, and not by any craven or unworthy offering to those hatreds and intrigues with which the agents and envoys of the despotic courts have so notoriously and unrelentingly pursued him.

Few home subjects of politics have maintained a reasonable interest in the midst of these foreign excitements. But opinion continues to declare itself on the question of parliamentary reform, and has been discussing with its usual freedom certain resolutions which had united several high consenting parties at a conference in Manchester, and of which the substance would appear to be, that the forthcoming Reform Bill will be decidedly unsatisfactory if it does not comprise triennial parliaments, a rate-paying suffrage, a re-distribution of the electoral districts, vote by ballot, and no property qualification for members. Against the entire of these demands it is argued, that such a scheme does not at this moment appear to be called for. It is thought that at the conclusion of a period in which parliaments have never averaged beyond a four years' duration, when representatives have given to their constituents increased facility of intercourse and controul, and during which the only remarkable breaches of election-engagements have been in favour of popular measures, no very striking case would appear to have been made out for a return to triennial parliaments. Again, while it is admitted that the smallness and corruption of certain constituencies demands prompt and decisive remedy, and that a franchise already much too narrow has been further compressed by needless technical conditions, it is felt that the instant substitution of the parish rate-book for the electoral register would be somewhat too near an approach to universal suffrage. Better, say this class of reasoners, keep your stand upon the ancient ways, than venture any closer appeal to that universality of the people, of which the state of our neighbour-metropolis would hardly seem to justify a trial. Remember that it is easier to do than to undo in constitutional changes, and confine your present exertion to such new wants as the change of the last twenty years may have created, to such new interests as it may have developed, and to such palpable shortcomings of the Reform Act, or surviving abuses of the old system, as, with reference to those wants and interests, it may have plainly brought to light. On the other hand, the reasoners are abundant who treat such arguments as a mere evasion, who declare that the dangers of continued agitation will only be incurred and prolonged by a compromise, who call for an extension of franchise without regard to the provisions of the last Reform Act, who see a self-adjusting register of voters in the rate-book, as suggested by the Lancashire men, which would satisfy a greater number of parties now bent upon reform than any other mode that could be hit upon, and who are not less resolved to stand out for such an

abolition of small constituencies, protection to the voter in the exercise of his right, and more frequent resort to general elections, as will suffice to make the proposed measure in all respects a real, and not a mere nominal, recognition of those vast populations of manufacture and commerce which may be said to have sprung into life even since the date of the last Reform Bill.

NARRATIVE OF POLITICS.

THE second annual general meeting of the *National Freehold Land Society* was held on the 28th ult., at the London Tavern, Sir J. Walsley, M.P., president of the association, in the chair. The annual report was of a satisfactory character. Of 230,000*l.* stated to have been received during the past year by freehold land societies, this society received 96,137*l.*, and out of 15,000 new members, this society obtained 4231, and out of 25,000 new shares, 9831 were issued by it. The nett balance up to the end of last year was 3077*l.* 13*s.*, out of which a dividend of 5*s.* 8*d.* per cent. would be placed to the credit of such members as had not received their shares, and the balance would be carried to the reserve fund. The report was unanimously adopted. Mr. Cobden, in supporting it, obviated some of the objections to these societies, and pointed out some advantages possessed by this society in particular. "There were persons (he said) who were prevented from joining some of these societies because, they said, it would take them a long time before they could get their lots. Now, in this respect the rules of this society differed from, and were better than others, and it was on this account that we made greater progress. Mr. Taylor himself admitted with great candour that our rules were better than his in Birmingham. Our plan is to go into the market and buy an estate, and then to sell it half to ready-money customers, and the other half to subscribing members, who ballot for it. Now, in other societies they have no ready-money customers, and they supply the members in rotation with allotments. Now, when the society numbers 400 or 500 this may do very well, but when it increases to 1400 or 1500 members, men say, if I join you I must wait many years before I can get from the bottom to the top. Consequently people ceased to join these societies, because they would have to wait seven or eight years before they could get their allotments. But the plan we adopt enables us to buy a larger estate than the other could, and the subscriber gets for his 30*l.* a piece of land at the wholesale price sooner than he would in other societies. That is the whole secret of the advantage of this society. It enables a man to get a piece of ground for 23*l.*, 20*l.*, 15*l.*, and even 10*l.*, which had been found when the revising barrister comes round to be worth 40*s.* a-year, which is a large interest for his money."

A great Reform Conference was held at Manchester on the 3rd inst., to consider what course ought to be taken by the friends of Parliamentary reform in consequence of the intimation made by Lord John Russell, that it was the intention of the government to bring forward a measure of parliamentary reform in the next session of Parliament. The number present was about 200, among whom were delegates from different parts of the country, and a number of the leading Reformers, Mr. Cobden, Mr. Bright, Sir J. Walsley, Mr. Milner Gibson, &c. Mr. G. Wilson, chairman of the Parliamentary Reform Association, took the chair. The following resolutions, drawn up for the purpose of embodying the views of the conference, were brought forward by Mr. Bright:—

1. That this conference has maturely considered the existing state of the representation of the United Kingdom, and has deliberated upon the changes which are required to satisfy the just and moderate expectations of the people, and to render the House of Commons, in conformity with the spirit of the constitution, a fair representation of the property, the industry, and the intelligence of the nation.—2. That with regard to the franchise, this conference is of opinion, that the right of voting should be widely extended, and that the franchise should be made more simple, with a view to the easy formation of an honest register of electors: and it recommends that the elective franchise, be based upon occupation and liability to the poor-rate, with such limitation as to period of residence as shall be necessary to afford a guarantee that the occupation is bona fide. In addition, the conference would urge the extension of the

40*s.* franchise, and its extension to the owners of property in the United Kingdom of that annual value, whether derived from freehold, copyhold, or leasehold tenures (cheers), with a view to open a way to the right of voting to many who, from various causes, would not be in the direct occupation of premises rated to the relief of the poor, but whose claim to the franchise, from industry, character, and station, is undoubted. The whole constituency of the United Kingdom would thus consist of occupiers rated to the relief of the poor, and the owners of property, freehold, copyhold, and leasehold, of the annual value of 40*s.*—

3. That this conference is of opinion, that no extension of the franchise will make the House of Commons a fair representation of the nation without a considerable change in the distribution of the electoral power; and it, therefore strongly urges, that, where practicable and convenient, small and neighbouring boroughs be united and form one borough. That, where such union is not practicable, small boroughs cease to return members, and that their existing constituencies merge in the constituency of the county in which they are situate. That, corresponding to the extent which small boroughs shall be united, or shall cease to return members to Parliament, new boroughs be created from the populous towns now unrepresented, and that additional members be conferred on the metropolitan and other first class boroughs in the United Kingdom. A guiding principle in the changes here recommended should be, that hereafter no small constituency should exist, and that no constituency should consist of fewer than 5000 electors.—4. That this conference is of opinion, that the adoption of the ballot is indispensable to an honest representation; that it would make the convictions of the electors, rather than his personal interests and fears, the leading motive in the exercise of his franchise; that it would repress the demoralising practices so humiliating to candidates and so degrading to electors, which seem almost inseparable from a canvass; and that it would aid most effectually in preventing the turbulence and riot with which elections have hitherto been too often attended.—5. That this conference is of opinion, that the present legal duration of Parliament is too much extended to secure to constituencies a proper control over their representatives, and would urge the repeal of the Septennial Act, and the limitation of the duration of Parliaments, in accordance with ancient precedent, to a period not exceeding three years.—6. That this conference entirely concurs in the views expressed by the Prime Minister during the last session of Parliament, that the property qualification for members of Parliament ought to be abolished. That in the propositions agreed to, and now submitted to the consideration of the country and the government, this conference has been anxious to adhere to the ancient landmarks of our representative system, and within their limits to introduce such changes only as experience has shown to be wise, and so to widen the basis of the representation as to satisfy the just expectations of a people improving in industry, in comfort, in education, in morals, and in the appreciation of their public duties and public rights.

A long discussion took place, and some differences of opinion were expressed on the various points involved in these resolutions.—Mr. G. Thompson declared himself opposed to the resolution having reference to the electoral franchise, and said he was certain that throughout the country nothing would give satisfaction but a very large extension of the suffrage. He urged that Mr. Hume's motion in parliament was more precise than that of Mr. Bright, and included every man of full age rated for the poor; and he moved an amendment which included in the place of the words proposed by Mr. Bright, with reference to the elective qualifications, the following words: "The occupation of a tenement, or a portion of a tenement, for which a claim shall have been made to be rated for the relief of the poor." Eventually Mr. Thompson's amendment was rejected, having been supported by only seven or eight votes; and the original resolutions were carried unanimously. It was then resolved: "That a deputation be appointed to wait on Lord John Russell for the purpose of pressing upon him the importance of granting a large and comprehensive measure of reform."—A large and crowded meeting was assembled in the evening at the Free Trade Hall. They were addressed by Mr. Cobden, Mr. Bright, and Mr. Gibson, and the resolutions adopted at the morning conference were proposed and enthusiastically adopted.—Lord John Russell declined to receive the deputation, on the ground that it was inexpedient to receive local deputations on matters involving the general interests of the country. Another meeting was conse-

quently held on the 23rd, at which the following resolution, moved by Mr. Bright, was adopted:—

That this meeting regrets extremely that Lord John Russell has declined to receive the deputation appointed at the late conference, and cannot but regard the reason assigned as evasive and unsatisfactory. That on a question of an improved representation, the opinions of a deputation appointed at a conference representing to a large extent the feelings of the population of the most populous counties in the United Kingdom, cannot be without influence, and have a strong claim on the respectful consideration of the Government; and this meeting expresses its apprehension that the course taken by the Minister is not calculated to increase the confidence of the Reformers of the United Kingdom in his intention to bring forward a substantial measure of Parliamentary reform.

The *St. Alban's Bribery Commission* re-assembled on the 1st inst., in pursuance of their adjournment for the purpose of terminating the enquiry.—The Hon. F. Craven, and Mr. G. W. Repton, the sitting member for the borough, were examined. Mr. Craven stated that he was a candidate for the borough in 1847, and spent only between 600*l.* and 1000*l.*; but the smallness of the sum was easily accounted for—he remained at the bottom of the poll. It was suggested that he should buy about one hundred votes, but he would not consent. He had a shrewd suspicion that there was bribery going on—on his own, as well as on the other side; but he had no personal cognisance of the fact. Mr. Repton said that he had represented the borough since 1841. His election in 1841 cost between 3000*l.* and 4000*l.* He only knew the fact lately, through incidentally examining an old banking book; for the matter was arranged without his knowledge by members of his family. Mr. Rumball, a former mayor of the town, requested to be allowed to put in a written communication stating facts respecting the hiding away of witnesses from the parliamentary inquiry last session. The letter referred to the detention of Atkins, Lynes, Haywood, and Brandon, by Edwards; and Mr. Rumball particularly demanded that a certificate of indemnity should be withheld from Mr. Edwards. Mr. Gresham, one of the solicitor witnesses, also begged to show cause why Mr. Edwards should have no certificate. As Mr. Gresham stepped out of the witness-box, the mob in court jeered at him, and Edwards joined in the laughter. Mr. Gresham observed to Edwards, "Here is your rough committee at work!" Edwards, enraged at this taunt, jumped up, seized his horse-whip, and, holding it threateningly over the solicitor, exclaimed, "How dare you say that, sir?" Mr. Gresham, with great coolness, addressed the commissioners, and said, "I beg you to take notice that I am assaulted." Perceiving his error, Mr. Edwards dropped the whip. Mr. Gresham took it up, held it up to the commissioners, and said again, "This is what he was going to assault me with." Mr. Edwards then dragged the whip from Mr. Gresham, and shouted, "How dare you speak as you did?" Commissioner Forsyth, at this juncture, interposed, with an "Order, order!" and a horse-whipping in open court was prevented.—In the meantime Mr. Fitzgerald, the secretary of the commission, had been busy in a room adjacent, granting certificates to the witnesses which had been reported worthy of them by the commissioners. Some of the townsmen, finding themselves rejected, hurried into the chief court, and pleaded earnestly for the refused document. The first who appeared was a poor old man, apparently a labourer: he had strenuously denied on a former day Edwards's allegation against him—that he took 5*l.* for his vote. "The vote," he said, "was never mentioned!" and he therefore refused to admit that he had considered the bribe as a bribe. He was now asked, did he confess that he had regarded the money as for his vote? "Yes, I suppose it was!" "Then why did you not say so last time?" "Why, the vote was never mentioned by Edwards!" "But, did you not in your conscience know that the money was to secure your vote?" "Yes, I did; I suppose I did!" "Then," said the chief commissioner, passing sentence, "you stated a falsehood when you were before us formerly; and to grant you a certificate that you have spoken the truth would be in us to commit a crime something like your own. You must abide the result." The succeeding case was that of a musician. Edwards had stated that he had received 5*l.* for his vote. When called in his turn, he denied

that the 5*l.* was for^r his vote—it was for music—three gongs, worth 10*s.* This story he adhered to with pertinacious obstinacy; and the consequence was that the certificate was now refused to him. He came to express his compunction to the commissioners, and to beg that they would relent. He had not known how to answer, when he was under examination. He had not intended to tell an untruth, and he was very sorry. "Did you, then, tell us false?" "Yes, I did!" "Then you cannot have your certificate. You set a bad example; and must abide by what you have done." There were some other similar incidents: the commissioners adhere to their rule firmly.—The commissioners afterwards stated, that in the cases of those engaged directly by the candidates, such as Low, Blagg, and Edwards, certificates would be granted at some subsequent time.—The enquiry was then nominally adjourned to the 25th of January; but it was understood that the commissioners would not sit again.

Lord Palmerston has resigned his Office of Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and is succeeded by Lord Granville. Lord Stanley of Alderly, the Under-Secretary for Foreign affairs, has also resigned.

NARRATIVE OF LAW AND CRIME.

THE Court of Exchequer, on the 1st inst., gave judgment in the case of the *Queen v. Messrs. Bradbury and Evans*, the printers of this publication, "*The Household Narrative of Current Events*." It will be remembered that proceedings were taken in the above court, at the instance of the Crown, with the view of making "*The Household Narrative*" liable for the newspaper stamp-duty, under the Act 6 & 7 Will. IV., c. 76. The question depended on the interpretation given to the schedule at the end of that act. The schedule gave definitions of the publications in the United Kingdom liable to the newspaper stamp, to the following effect: 1. Any paper containing public news, intelligence, or occurrences; 2. also, any paper printed weekly or oftener, or at intervals not exceeding twenty-six days, containing only or principally advertisements; 3. and also, any paper containing any public news, intelligence, or occurrences, or any remarks or observations thereon, published periodically, or in parts or numbers, at intervals not exceeding twenty-six days, where any of such parts or numbers shall not exceed two sheets, or where the price shall not exceed sixpence.—The case was argued last term, but judgment was postponed in consequence of the judges being equally divided in opinion. The judges now delivered their opinions *seriatim*.—Mr. Baron Martin said, that the question submitted to the court was, whether the publication before them was to be deemed a publication liable to stamp duty within the meaning of the several acts of parliament, and was subject to the same stamp as in the case of a newspaper? On the argument on behalf of the Crown, the Attorney-General had contended that, as the publication contained more recent information than that which was limited by the statute, viz., news of less than twenty-six days old, it should be liable to the stamp duty; and should be held to be a newspaper, as it contained public news of current and recent events. It appeared, however, to him (Mr. Baron Martin), upon a careful examination of the various acts of parliament downwards, from the statute of Anne, which first imposed the stamp duty, that the publication in question did not come within the meaning of those acts as a newspaper. There was nothing in those statutes which made it necessary that a publication, published at intervals of more than twenty-six days, or within a calendar month, should be subject to the stamp duty. Now "*The Household Narrative*" did not, in his opinion, come within the meaning of the term newspaper, according to the spirit of the act of parliament.—Mr. Baron Platt concurred in this opinion. The publication in question contained accounts of the proceedings in parliament, and in the courts of law, and of other events of public interest; it was published at intervals exceeding twenty-six days, on a surface not exceeding two sheets, of a size twenty-one inches long by seventeen

inches wide, and its price was less than sixpence. The Attorney-General had contended that it was liable to duty as a newspaper, under the act 6 & 7 Will. IV., c. 76. Looking at the schedule annexed to that statute, there might be some room for doubt; but that doubt was dispelled on a review of the several previous statutes on the subject, and the language and course of former legislation. The learned judge then recapitulated and commented on the different provisions of the various statutes, from the statute of Anne downwards, and proceeded to say, that the "Household Narrative of Current Events" must be either a pamphlet, or a paper as contradistinguished from a pamphlet. If it was a pamphlet, it was not chargeable with duty, because "it did not fall within the description of the act 60 Geo. III. He himself was not satisfied that it was not a pamphlet; but assuming, for the sake of argument, that it might be a newspaper, it was necessary to look at the schedule of the statute 6 & 7 Will. IV., to see what newspapers were liable to duty within the meaning of its provisions. After reading the words of the statute, the learned judge said he could not distinguish the present publication from that of a pamphlet or a magazine, such as the "Gentleman's Magazine," or any similar publication which was not taxed, and it seemed to him therefore on the whole that as the publication was not published at intervals of less than twenty-six days, the judgment of the court should be against the Crown.—Mr. Baron Parke thought the judgment ought to be in favour of the Crown. There was no doubt on his mind that the 6 & 7 Will. IV. never contemplated a publication of the nature of the one in question; and his opinion also was, that that of Anne did not either. The statute applied to news of recent events, and the publication in question contained such news. The question then arose, whether it was meant news which arrived within the twenty-six days, or news which was published in a paper published at intervals of more than twenty-six days. He was of opinion that what was meant, was to restrain such publications from publishing news of a more recent date than twenty-six days.—The Lord Chief Baron said he was not convinced, either by the arguments of counsel, or the opinion of his learned brother Parke, that the "Household Narrative" was a publication which came within the term newspaper. Under the circumstances he thought the judgment should be for the defendants. The language of the act of Anne was applied to newspapers which were to be dispersed throughout the United Kingdom. The statute of William IV. was a legislative recognition that a pamphlet was not a newspaper, and that the publication in question did not come within that term. It mattered not whether the news in a publication published at intervals of twenty-six days, or two days earlier or later than the date of publication, but it was evidently not a newspaper. Although it might come within the description of a chronicle of passing events, he did not see that it was therefore to be considered a newspaper, even if it brought passing events down to a very recent period before the publication. If to-morrow Mr. Macanlay published a work bringing down events to Saturday last, could such a work come within the description and character of a newspaper? In the "Monthly Register," "Monthly Magazine," and other monthly publications, births, deaths, and marriages, were given; so also was news of recent date given of bankruptcy, commercial intelligence, and of both houses of parliament, but no one thought of considering such publications liable to stamp duty. He could not consider that the publication in question could be considered as under the general character of a newspaper; and he certainly differed with his learned brother (Mr. Baron Parke) as to the meaning and object of the statutes. Looking at the whole question he thought a certain unfrequency of publication gives it the character of a chronicle of events, or a paper chronicling historical events, rather than that of a newspaper. According to his reading of the act of parliament, if the publication was published at intervals of twenty-six days, then it was a newspaper; but if above that, then it was a mere chronicle, whether it contained late events or not.—In consequence of these opinions, the judgment of the court was given in favour of the defendants.

The Court of Queen's Bench was occupied during the 1st and 2d inst., in trying the case of the *Queen v. Holder Alleyne, M'Geachy Alleyne, and T. D'Arcy*. It was a prosecution for conspiracy to defraud Robert Blair Kennedy, and to obtain from him the sum of 7300*l.* by false pretences. The whole of the parties concerned were within the last few years officers in her Majesty's service. Kennedy is the son of Colonel Kennedy, and the nephew of Sir R. Blair; he was educated at Sandhurst, and was there a fellow student with M'Geachy Alleyne. Both these young men obtained commissions in the 89th Regiment of Foot, and joined their corps at Montreal, in Canada, somewhere about 1843. Holder Alleyne was a lieutenant in the Second Light Infantry, also in Canada during 1843; and was introduced to Kennedy by M'Geachy Alleyne. D'Arcy was also an officer in the Eighty-ninth. While in Canada, the young men all gambled, betted, and lived much beyond their income. Kennedy had good expectations. They had all returned to England in 1846. Towards the end of 1846, Holder Alleyne made a bet with Kennedy that a certain mare of his should trot half a mile while a horse of Kennedy's galloped three quarters of a mile. Holder Alleyne stated that he had picked her up at a dealer's, and that she was an English mare of extraordinary mark. By skilful management, Kennedy was at last induced to take the following bets against this mare. "The bet that was made was 100*l.* that the mare could not trot twelve miles within the hour, 200*l.* that she could not trot thirteen miles, 400*l.* that she could not trot fourteen miles, 800*l.* that she could not trot fifteen miles, 1600*l.* that she could not trot sixteen miles, 3200*l.* that she could not trot seventeen miles, 500*l.* that she could not trot fourteen miles, and 500*l.* that she could not trot fifteen miles within the hour—total, 7300*l.* The match was to come off on or before the 1st of January 1847. Holder Alleyne was to name time and place, and give me one week's notice, and he might withdraw from the bet on payment of a forfeit of 500*l.* No forfeit was named for me to pay." At the time Kennedy made this bet he had never seen the mare, and only took her qualities on Holder Alleyne's representation. He afterwards saw her; she was of no particular promise in looks; her name was Pigeon. In December Kennedy received notice to be ready with his money, as Pigeon was fit for the match. But just on the eve of the match, M'Geachy Alleyne and D'Arcy made such strong representations that the mare was able to do more than she was backed to do, and urged a compromise so strongly, that at last Kennedy consented to pay the 7300*l.* down, and as an off-set to become half-owner of the horse. The money was paid. About this time, Kennedy was obliged to leave the army; and after a time his uncle obtained him an East India cadetship. He went to India. On his return, he completed an investigation into what he suspected had been a fraud on himself in these transactions. It was discovered that the English mare Pigeon was no other than the celebrated American trotting mare Fanny Jenks, who had performed a hundred miles in ten hours, and could cover nineteen miles in the hour. It further turned out, that, in December 1846, she had suddenly fallen lame, so as to be totally unfit to run a match; that the compromise urged by M'Geachy Alleyne and D'Arcy was a scheme to save the loss of the wager through the mare's lameness; and that the money was divided between the two Alleynes—and a reverend brother of theirs, Joseph, who was not included in the indictment—and D'Arcy. In consequence of these discoveries, this action for conspiracy was brought. The whole of the facts were fully proved. The chief witnesses were the prosecutor, Kennedy, and Ignatius Francis Coyle, who was lately convicted of a bill fraud on M'Geachy Alleyne, and is now enduring his sentence in Newgate. Coyle was a gambler, who was once the "intimate friend" of Holder Alleyne, and Holder had told him the whole scheme of fraud in confidence. At the present time, M'Geachy Alleyne and D'Arcy were engaged in the manufacture of beer-barrel staves, under a patent, in Bermondsey. The jury found all the defendants guilty. The prosecutor recommended M'Geachy Alleyne to the mercy of the court, from a belief that he had been

corrupted by his brother Holder. Lord Campbell sentenced Holder Alleyne to be imprisoned for two years, D'Arcy for one year, and McGeachy Alleyne for six months, in the Middlesex House of Correction. But the defendants had escaped from the country before the termination of the proceedings.

In the Central Criminal Court, on the 29th ult., W. Smith, alias Glenister, twenty years of age, was found guilty of the *Murder of his Wife*. He was recommended to mercy on the ground that he was intoxicated when he committed the acts of brutal violence which resulted in death. Mr. Justice Maule promised to forward the recommendation to the proper quarters, but sentenced the prisoner to death, and warned him to prepare for his fate. His sentence, however, has been commuted to transportation for life; a measure which has been much commented on, as no circumstance of extenuation, such as can be supposed to have recommended it to the tenderness of the Home Office, or the mercy of the Crown, was elicited at the trial or has been publicly mentioned since.

An inquest was held on the 2nd inst., on the body of James Martin, a stoker on the South Coast Railway, who was *Killed* by a passenger train running into a goods train, as it was crossing the single bridge over the Arun at Ford, on the 27th ult. It appeared from the evidence that the engine-driver, Pemberton, had been driving too rapidly. The jury returned a verdict of manslaughter against John Pemberton, with the following recommendation—"Having found the existence of an invention which promises to lessen the risk of life and limb on railway lines, we recommend that the invention be fairly tested by the railway companies and adopted, if found good; and if Mr. Whitworth's plan be a good one, no Board of Directors ought to regard the small expense attendant on its adoption." This (added the foreman) was a note he found in Dickens's "Household Words." "And also, that the engine-drivers be directed to slacken their pace on approaching the Ford Bridge."—the invention referred to by the jury was described in "Household Words" of the 29th November.

Another dreadful "Agrarian Murder" has been committed in Ireland. Mr. Thomas Bateson, the brother of Sir Robert Bateson, and manager of the estates of Lord Templeton in the county Monaghan, was returning home on the evening of the 4th inst., from his model farm to Castleblayney, when he was attacked by three men, who lay in wait for him in a hollow of the road near some small plantations which afforded a cover. A little boy named Baillie, age thirteen, was driving home his father's cows, and saw the onset. A shot was fired; then three men rushed on Mr. Bateson, and beat him down with pistols, or with bludgeons. Mr. Bateson rose against them three times, but at last fell as if dead; and the men escaped through the plantations. The Arnagh omnibus passed immediately afterwards, and Mr. Bateson was found insensible, but not dead. He lingered till the following evening, and then expired. His skull had been fractured in many places, and a portion of the brain carried away. Two pistols were picked up near the scene of the attack, both of them clotted with blood, and carrying portions of Mr. Bateson's hair. One had been fired, the other was still loaded, but the cap had been flashed. A large stone covered with blood and hair was also found. Two persons have been arrested on suspicion. Mr. Bateson was proverbially kind to the poor, and gave constant employment to a great number of labourers; but he had lately taken some eviction proceedings against dishonest tenants of Lord Templeton.

An action at the instance of Mr. Birch, proprietor of "The World," a Dublin newspaper, against Sir William Somerville, Chief Secretary for Ireland, to recover 7000*l.* for *political services to the Irish Government*, was tried in the Dublin Court of Queen's Bench, on the 5th and 6th inst. The first witness in support of the claim was the plaintiff himself, who swore to conversations and correspondence with Mr. Corry Connellan, Sir William Somerville, and Mr. Meredith, the result of which was that he devoted his paper "The World" to the defence of "law and order,"—and, having admitted payments of several hundred pounds to him by the

gentlemen above named, under that agreement,—he estimated the value of the services still not paid for, at 6500*l.* On his cross-examination, he said that he considered himself entitled to 5000*l.* for his services; that he could not swear that the circulation of his paper ever exceeded 1500 copies, and that its price was sixpence; that he had received 358*l.* from Lord Clarendon; that he had also received 2000*l.*, and 1700*l.* additional from his Excellency; notwithstanding which he considered himself entitled to 6500*l.* more. He further stated that one of the principal objects for which he was engaged was to write down the rebellious press, the "Nation" and "United Irishman," in 1848, and to write up the Government, but he admitted, however, on cross-examination, that one of his editors, and the writer of many of the articles for which he claimed remuneration, to whom he paid 30*s.* a week, was at the same time the sub-editor of the "United Irishman." The Earl of Clarendon, who was next examined, stated that he first knew of Mr. Birch by having received various communications and applications from him tendering his services in support of the Government as proprietor of "The World" newspaper, and although he knew nothing whatever of Mr. Birch's antecedents, he felt that at the critical period of 1848, it was his duty, as the head of the Government, to accept the services of every man who offered himself in support of the law and order. He believed he had two or three interviews with Mr. Birch, but he did not augur much service to the Government from him, nor did he know much of his newspaper writings, for he never read them. He had, however, directed several sums of money to be paid to him through Sir W. Somerville; and in the whole, the plaintiff had received from him 3700*l.*, part of which came in the first instance from the public money on his responsibility, and every shilling of which he had long since repaid, so that the whole amount came entirely out of his own private pocket, paid to the plaintiff through the agency of Sir W. Somerville, who acted for him on the occasion, and that was all Sir W. Somerville or the Government had to do with the transaction. Mr. Corry Connellan, the Lord Lieutenant's private secretary, was examined, and admitted all the letters produced to have been written by him, and with the concurrence of the Lord Lieutenant, to whom he then had been private secretary, and the different sums of money he had paid to the plaintiff on various occasions. Mr. Meredith, the secretary of Sir W. Somerville, was next examined, and made similar admissions. For the defence it was contended that the action was a rascally attempt to entrap persons in authority into writing to him, in order that he might afterwards extort money from them by threats of publication of their private letters; that the jury ought to convict this "literary assassin" of the crime of wilful perjury; for a number of his letters were totally inconsistent with the idea that he thought that 7000*l.* was due to him; and lastly, that Lord Clarendon possessed his release of all claims. To get rid of him for ever, Lord Clarendon had given him 2000*l.*; and he had signed a release of all causes of action, dated the 4th November, 1850—a release of all causes of action against Lord Clarendon, or any other person, from all claims for and in relation to services rendered, or alleged to be rendered by him. The jury gave a verdict for the defendant, with sixpence costs.

The case of *Müller v. Salomons*,—the prosecution for penalties brought against Alderman Salomons for illegally sitting and voting in the House of Commons—was disposed of in the Court of Exchequer on the 8th inst. Mr. sergeant Channell and Mr. Macnamara appeared for the plaintiff, and Sir Fitzroy Kelly, with Mr. Peacock, Mr. Goldsmid, and Mr. Willes, were for Mr. Salomons. Mr. Macnamara had explained the pleadings, and Mr. sergeant Channell had made an opening speech, when the judge, Baron Martin, suggested, that as the facts did not seem disputed, the doubtful law might be better determined by preparing a special case for the court above; and he offered to prepare the case himself. After consultation it was agreed that the offer of the judge should be accepted. The jury found a verdict accordingly; and Baron Martin is to frame a case on which the opinion of the court can be taken,

to determine whether a Jew may or may not legally sit in the House of Commons.

The trial of an action for *False Imprisonment* brought by William Henry Matthew against Dr. Hartly of Dublin, concluded on the 17th, after occupying the Irish Court of Exchequer for six days. The plaintiff is a young man who two years since obtained a scholarship in Trinity College, and has graduated there with much distinction. He was brought up by the defendant, a respectable medical practitioner in Dublin; but he had never known who his parents were. He complained that Dr. Hartly had subjected him to a long course of cruel usage, and had ultimately confined him in Swift's Lunatic Hospital during a considerable time, for no reason but to subdue his spirit and to break down his health. He suspected that Dr. Hartly was his guardian, and had property left for his use by his real parents. The details of the case were interesting, and an extraordinary sensation was excited, when Dr. Hartly himself came into the witness-box, and confessed, "with shame and grief," that the plaintiff was his own son, by one who "might fairly be denominated a lady," who had given birth to him in Monmouthshire, and had died at Dublin while he was still an infant. Many persons in the Court were moved to tears. The Jury gave a verdict for the plaintiff, with 1000*l.* damages.

Garrotte Robberies have lately been of almost nightly occurrence in Manchester, Birmingham and Leeds, and a number of persons have been committed for trial at all these places. At Manchester, Mary Ann Welch and Mary O'Brien, two girls each under the age of fifteen, have been committed for robbing Mary Mutch, a girl about the same age, of two shillings and three halfpence. The two girl-thieves were seen to come out of a public-house, and to push against Mutch as they passed her; money being heard to rattle in her pocket, one of them put her arm round Mutch's neck, and throttled her till she fell on the pavement, when the two rifled her pockets and ran off.—William Capstick and Henry Thompson have been committed for robbing Henry Compton of 9*l.* They tied a shawl tight round his neck till he was insensible, and then rifled his pockets.—Two men named Bibby and Caulfield, have been committed for robbing Abram Orme of two shillings and seven pence, in Bird-street. Caulfield put his arm round Orme's neck, whilst Bibby robbed him.—At Leeds, Mr. James Mann was attacked by three men. One of them strangled him till he was temporarily insensible; and so rendered it easy for the others to steal his money, and for all to escape.—At Birmingham, Mr. Whilock, draper, was attacked by two men who tried to "garrotte" him: being a powerful man he beat off his two assailants, but a third joined them, and they then overpowered him, and, laying him insensible on the pavement, took off his watch. When the police discovered him, his face was covered with blood from wounds on the head, and his leg was broken.

There have been many *Affrays between Game-keepers and Poachers*, some of them of a desperate character. One of these was on the preserves of Sir Arthur Clifton, at Barton Wood. The keepers were only three, and the poachers were at least forty; but the keepers had powerful aid from a mastiff named Lion, of great local fame. The keepers first met three men: they immediately let loose the dog—which, however, was half-muzzled—and rushed on. The foremost poacher drew his clasp-knife and ripped open the belly of the dog; but the keepers were on the point of overpowering the three poachers, when one of them gave a shrill whistle, and poachers poured in from every side. The odds were fearful; but the keepers still continued to fight valiantly. All attempts at capture were given up, and it was now merely in self-defence that Sir Arthur's men fought. In a short time they were completely overpowered, the poachers leaving them in the preserves frightfully mutilated. No one has been taken. The keepers are recovering, but Lion died on Tuesday morning.

On the 23rd the Vice-Chancellor gave judgment on an important question of nuisance, in the case of *Soltau v. De Held*. Sometime ago Mr. Soltau obtained a verdict for damages against Father De Held, on account of the annoyance and injury he suffered by the ringing

of the bells of the monastery of the Redemptorist Fathers in the neighbourhood of Mr. Soltau's house. The bell-ringing, nevertheless, was persisted in; Mr. Soltau consequently applied to the Vice-Chancellor for an injunction; and the application was met by a demurrer. In giving judgment, the Vice-Chancellor held that the bells in question constituted a private nuisance, of which a private party was entitled to complain; that Mr. Soltau had not come to the nuisance, but the nuisance had come to him; and that the chapel of the defendants did not possess any of the exclusive privileges conferred by law upon the parish or district churches of the establishment. He therefore granted an injunction to restrain the defendant, and all persons under his authority, from tolling the bells in question "so as to occasion any nuisance, disturbance, and annoyance, to the plaintiff and his family residing in his dwelling-house."

NARRATIVE OF ACCIDENT AND DISASTER.

A FRIGHTFUL and most distressing accident has happened at New York, whereby nearly *Fifty children have Perished*, and many more have been irrecoverably injured. Ward School, in Greenwich Avenue, is a large building of four stories, with a winding stair-case. Each story opens upon the landing, and is occupied by different departments of the institution. The girls were in the third story, and in the fourth story was the male department. One of the teachers in the female department was taken with a fainting fit, and was carried out into the passage-way, where a cry was raised of "Water, water," by one of her companions. This cry was not understood, and the next moment the cry of "Fire!" was raised, and spread through the building. The children from the primary department rushed to the stairs, as did also the scholars on the floor above them. The stairway was soon filled, and the press against the banisters so great that they gave way, precipitating the children to the ground floor. Two of the female teachers made an effort to stop the children; but their efforts were vain, and they were themselves hurried along with the current. In the upper room—the boys' department—Mr. McNally, the master, took his stand with his back against the door, and forbade any one to go out—thus saving the lives perhaps of hundreds. Some of the boys jumped out of the windows, and one of them had his neck broken by the fall. There were altogether in the building but a few short of 1800 scholars. Hundreds went over the stairs, until there was a mass of children, eight feet square and about twelve feet in height. The alarm was now given outside, and the police were soon at hand to give assistance. Those that were on the top were, of course, but slightly injured; but as soon as these had been removed the most heart-rending spectacle presented itself. Body after body was taken out in a lifeless state. Some recovered when brought into the air, but no fewer than fifty of the children had ceased to breathe. Of the female teachers five were injured, some of them very seriously. The dead and dying were carried away in litters, amid a scene of grief and agony which beggars all description.

An inquest was held at Kensington, on the 6th, to ascertain the cause of death of R. Woolen, a plasterer, who was killed on the 29th ult., by the *Falling of a large portion of a Pile of Buildings* in course of erection in the Gloucester-road, Kensington. The jury returned a special verdict to the effect, That the death of the deceased was caused by reason of the bad materials furnished by Mr. Indernick, the proprietor, and further, that Mr. Bean, the surveyor, was to blame for having permitted the works to proceed under such circumstances.

Union Hall, in the Borough, was *Destroyed by Fire* on the evening of the 6th inst. For many years it was the chief police office for the district, and, since the removal of the magisterial business, the premises have been occupied jointly by Messrs. Pickford and Co., the railway carriers, and Messrs. Smith and Co., hat and cap manufacturers. The outbreak was exceedingly sudden.

The clerks of Messrs. Smith were engaged in the counting-house, when they were startled by a flash of light on the opposite side of Union Street, and, going out to ascertain the cause, they were astonished to find that their own place was on fire. So rapid was the work of destruction, that it was impossible even to save the books, and in less than a quarter of an hour, the whole building was in flames. A number of engines were quickly on the spot, but it was some time before a supply of water could be procured. The firemen succeeded in preventing an extension of the flames, but all efforts to save the Union Hall proved abortive, and it was completely consumed by eleven o'clock.

An *Explosion* took place on the 2nd inst. in a rocket-factory, near Dartford, belonging to a Mr. Callow. The factory was levelled with the ground, and seven work-people were destroyed. The body of a man named Haggard was found with the whole of the clothing consumed, portions of the flesh stripped, and the brains protruding. The remains of five persons were soon collected together, and two others were picked up alive. One had both his arms broken, and the other (a woman) had her legs and thighs fractured, and her eyes blown out. The man lingered for an hour and a half. The woman only lived half an hour. An inquest was held on the bodies, and the jury, in their verdict, declared themselves to be "unanimously of opinion, that gross carelessness had been displayed on the part of Mr. Callow, in suffering blasting cartridges to be manufactured in a building quite unfitted for the purpose, having imperfect floors of wood and gravel; in suffering the men employed to work in nailed boots and shoes; and in not having any defined rules or regulations, either written or printed, for the guidance or protection of the persons employed in the premises."

Two dreadful *Colliery Explosions* have taken place; the one on the morning of the 20th at Warren Vale Colliery, near Rotherham; the other on the morning of the 22nd at a colliery near Wigan, belonging to Mr. Halliburton. By the first accident, forty-three persons were destroyed; by the second, eleven; besides many more frightfully injured. Inquests on the bodies have begun to sit in both cases, but the investigations are not yet concluded.

Mr. Lacy, cabinet-maker, of Whitechapel, was *Burnt to Death* in his own house, on Monday evening, the 15th. He was nearly eighty years old; he had been out in the evening to see his daughter, and returned to his house about eleven. Soon after he entered his house fire was seen to rise in the shop, and when the door was broken open the old man was heard crying out, "Oh save! for God's sake, save me!" but a body of flame intervened which could not be passed through, and he perished. After the fire was subdued, his charred remains were found on the floor of the workshop. It is supposed that he let a spark fall from his candle amongst some thin wood-shavings.

There was a fatal *Boiler Explosion*, on the 12th, at the Lower Soundwell Pit Colliery, Kingswood, near Bristol. A number of men had just been hauled up, when, without any warning, the boiler blew up, and scattered to an immense distance the materials of the massive masonry into which it was built. Thomas Waller was killed on the spot; Francis Fowler, John Palmer, and a boy not named, were dreadfully scalded and wounded. Waller has left a widow and five children.

A large portion of the immense pianoforte-manufactory built a year since by the Messrs. Collard, in the Oval Road, Camden Town, was destroyed by fire on the morning of the 19th. It is stated that upwards of three hundred finished pianos were destroyed, and that the total damage was 60,000*l*. Messrs. Collard were insured, but their skilled workmen suffer the total loss of their whole stock of tools.

On Thursday morning, the 25th, Mr. J. Douglas, a special pleader, who resided in Garden Court, Temple, was *Found Dead* in his chamber, having a deep wound in his head. It appears that on his return home on Christmas eve, he remained in his sitting-room for some time, and it is supposed that on retiring to his bed-room he was seized with vertigo, and fell against the key in the door lock, when the key inflicted the wound. He was about sixty years of age.

SOCIAL, SANITARY, AND MUNICIPAL PROGRESS.

THE intentions of Government with respect to *Postal Communication with India and Australia* have at length been announced.

The project invites competition for five distinct lines of service, which may be resolved, however, for the purposes of general comprehension, into two—the first from England to Calcutta and Hong-Kong; the second from Singapore to Sydney. As the service on the first of these lines is to be executed twice a month, each fortnightly voyage is made the subject of a separate contract, and, as the distance is divided into two stages at the Egyptian isthmus, a corresponding division is to be made in the advertisement for tenders; so that, in point of fact, four of the "lines" simply represent the intercourse between Great Britain, India, and China. The fifth line alone is concerned with Australia, and all that it provides is a communication every alternate month between Sidney and Singapore. The general result of the arrangement will be as follows:—Once a fortnight, that is to say, at the beginning and middle of every month, a steamer of not less than 1000 tons, and bound to perform ten knots an hour, is to leave England for Alexandria, with directions to touch at Gibraltar and Malta. At Malta a branch packet from Marseilles will bring such mails as may have been forwarded across France. When the mails and passengers have been carried over the Isthmus by such means as the Viceroy of Egypt may provide, another steamer will be found in waiting at Suez, which will immediately take them on to Aden. At Aden the vessels of the East India Company will be in readiness to receive the portion of the cargo destined for Bombay, and the remainder will then proceed by a divided route, one steamer making way by Madras to Calcutta, and another by Penang to Singapore and Hong-Kong.

Some important proceedings have taken place on the subject of *Education*. The National Public School Association had its annual demonstration on the 1st inst. at Manchester, including a meeting of the general council in the morning, and a public meeting in the evening. Mr. A. Henry, M.P., was chairman of the council meeting in the morning, and Mr. Cobden, Mr. Milner Gibson, and Mr. G. Combe, of Edinburgh, were present. At this meeting Mr. Cobden was the principal speaker, and—as well as Mr. Gibson—supported the views expressed in the resolution, which expressed that doctrinal religion should only be taught at certain hours specified, that the attendance of scholars at those hours should not be compulsory, and that no part of the school payments should be directly or indirectly applied to that especial purpose.—The meeting in the evening at the Corn Exchange was a very numerous one, and the chief speakers on the occasion were, as before, Mr. M. Gibson, Mr. Combe, and Mr. Cobden. The same subject was, of course, a prominent feature in the discussion. Mr. Gibson, who was of opinion that the system of separating secular from religious instruction must be adopted by the National Association, moved the following resolution: "That any system of free instruction established in this country, and maintained at the public cost, can only be accordant with justice, and prove satisfactory in its operations, by providing secular instruction only."—Mr. Combe developed at considerable length the views he entertained with respect to secular education, and showed in what, in his opinion, true teaching consisted. He expressed his belief that the National School Association would work out that secular education in which the religious sentiment would do its own part, and thus prove a blessing to humanity.—Mr. Cobden made some observations on the application about to be made to Parliament, for a Private Bill for giving to Manchester and Salford, a local system of education. The Manchester and Salford Association, he remarked, insisted that in all schools religious education should be given at the expense of the whole community, which, in his opinion, involved insuperable difficulties, the principal one being that by that means were excluded from those schools many of those whose parents have been rated to the

maintenance of those schools. The remainder of his speech related chiefly to the great want of education in this country, a theme on which he descended with great eloquence.

On the following day, a great meeting of the advocates of the local or clerical scheme of education for Manchester and Salford was held in the Free Trade Hall, Manchester. Mr. W. Entwistle, banker, occupied the chair. Among the speakers were—the Bishop of Manchester, the Rev. H. Stowell, Alderman Shuttleworth, the Rev. Canon Clifton, and many other clergymen and dissenting ministers. The following resolutions were unanimously adopted:—

"That this meeting gratefully concurs in the desire publicly expressed by her Most Gracious Majesty that the youth of these kingdoms should be religiously brought up, and that the rights of conscience should be respected.

"That it is expedient to provide, by legislative enactment, for the free education of all the children in this district, by means of local rates, such rates to be administered by local authorities.

"That the rates so levied ought to be applied in support of existing schools affording religious and secular instruction, and of similar schools to be hereafter erected by voluntary liberality; and also in the erection of schoolrooms in destitute districts.

"That in the case of schools not receiving Parliamentary aid, and not publicly recognised as affording religious instruction, provision should be made for the daily instruction of the children in the Holy Scriptures.

"That in all cases the right of the parent to select the place where his children shall be educated, and to exempt them from any distinctive religious teaching to which he shall conscientiously object, must be sacredly maintained."

On the 4th inst., a deputation from the above meeting waited on Lord J. Russell, to request the support of Government to the bill; and his lordship, after attentively listening to the several speakers, promised that the subject should receive his fullest consideration.

A crowded meeting of the merchants of London, and of gentlemen deputed from the great mercantile ports of the north of England and Scotland, in favour of *Reform in the Customs*, was held at the London Tavern on the 3rd inst. Mr. Masterman was in the chair. The following Report of a Committee of London merchants, recommending to the consideration of the public a most important scheme of reform, was unanimously adopted by the meeting:—

"1. The number of Commissioners may be advantageously reduced to four or five, whereof one should be in Parliament, and therefore moveable with the Government, as the Secretaries of the Treasury, Admiralty, Presidents of the Board of Trade, Poor-law Commissioner, &c. are in other departments.

"2. One member of the Board at least should be taken from the commercial body, and one or more drafted from the superior practical officers of the Customs.

"3. Promotion should be not only open but certain to all meritorious officers; nor should there be any restriction which would prevent useful officers in one department from being removed into another.

"4. Higher qualifications, a longer probation, and a much more protracted and systematic training of all officers, should be required, than are at present exacted; and a strict examination of every permanent officer should be made by a board of officers called for the purpose.

"5. Ad valorem duties should be abolished; and such duties as must be retained to meet equivalent excise imposts, or fixed duties on other articles of a like class, should be converted into specific duties.

"6. The authorities charged with the adjudication of any case of a merchant or trader, should in all cases be bound to hear him personally on demand; and all questions at issue between the merchant and the Board should be tried and decided in open court, on requisition by the parties.

"7. No officer should be competent to seize, stop, or detain the ship, goods, or person of a subject, until the person against whom the act has been adopted has been served by him in writing with a formal statement of the cause of seizure, detention, or as the case may be.

"8. The Crown should not be exempt from costs; and every subject should have the right to defend his person or property against the suit of the Crown without being called upon in limine to find security either for costs, fines or penalties.

"9. Merchants, shipowners, and others, should not be made responsible for the crimes or offences of their servants or crews, except where guilty knowledge or the most culpable negligence is clearly traced home to them.

"10. The system of fines and satisfactions to the officers, and the infliction of excessive penalties, should be entirely abolished.

"11. Prescription should run against the Crown equally as against the private subject; and in all cases, the delivery of goods from bond under duty certificate, should be final as to the

claims of the Crown, unless fraud on the part of the merchant be proved.

"12. All defalcations, fines, and seizures for entries, or declarations referable only to statistical purposes, and not involving questions of revenue, should be henceforth prohibited; the examination, entry, and deliveries of free goods should be simplified; and such a system should be devised in reference to goods passing through this country in transit, as shall relieve trade of the difficulties and loss to which the present provisions for transshipments subject it."

The meeting also resolved to request, by a deputation to Lord John Russell, the reappointment, next Session, of the select committee on the Customs.—Accordingly the deputation, consisting of a numerous body of the most eminent merchants in the metropolis, were received by Lord John Russell on the 9th. Mr. Travers, as their chairman, expressed the earnest desire of the commercial classes for the reappointment of the select committee at the earliest period after the assembly of parliament, and the deep and general dissatisfaction with that department of the government which directs the administration of the Custom House system. Lord John Russell, did not admit the justice of the complaints, either against the Board of Customs or the government. With regard to the reappointment of the select committee on Customs next session, he was not aware of any absolute objection to it; but he would not then pledge himself to that course. He assured the deputation, however, that the whole subject should receive his impartial consideration; and any measures which, while securing the revenue, would give greater facilities to the Dock Companies and the merchants generally, would meet with his strenuous support.

At a court of the *City Sanitary Commission*, on the 9th inst., the annual sanitary report of Mr. Simon, the medical officer of the city was brought up. It contains statements of great importance.—During the last ten years the population of the city has increased about 3·4 per cent; but in some districts there has been a decrease, so that the ratio of increase in other districts has been far greater. In the whole of East London the increase has been far above the average, and in the St. Botolph subdistrict the increase has been more than 16 per cent. This great local increase represents the continued influx of a poor population into localities already unwholesome from overcrowding by a squalid and sickly population. The mortality was 2978 persons, or at the rate of 2·3 per cent; the average being nearly 2·44 per cent. The deaths, during the three last years have been 9493; of these no less than 3469, or nearly three-eighths of the whole, were children under five years old. As children at this age are about a tenth part of the whole population of the city, this rate proves that they die in the city at four times the rate of their natural proportion to the average mortality of the district. There were 391 cases of fever, and the deaths by cholera and kindred diseases were 292. The deaths by smallpox were 91; of which it would not be harsh to say that 90 were deaths due to culpable negligence in not resorting to the public institutions for vaccination. Of the 100 deaths by erysipelas, a large majority might have been escaped under better sanitary circumstances. Of the whole 9493 deaths during the past three years, 3923 were caused by acute diseases, two-thirds of which were dependent on local and preventable causes. But it is not by acute disease alone that "preventable death" ravages the population: chronic ailments,—for instance, the immense class of serofulous diseases, including consumption, which causes at least a quarter of our mortality—show the vast influence which "circumstances" exert over that mortality. "Of such circumstances," says the report, "some lie within your control, and affect masses of the people; but the more special causes of chronic disease lie rather out of your jurisdiction, and the option of avoiding them is a matter of individual will. Vicious habits and indiscretion, a life too indolent or too laborious, poverty and privation, vicissitudes of weather and temperature, intemperance in diet, unwholesome and adulterated food, and not least, inappropriate marriages tending to perpetuate particular kinds of disease,—these words may suggest to you briefly these various influences within the sphere of private life by which the aggregate death-rate of a population is largely enhanced, and the control of which,

if attainable, lies almost entirely at the discretion of the classes subject to their operation. Considering all these causes, and the needless waste of life occasioned by them, I can have little doubt that as much might be done by individuals, under the influence of improved education, to lessen the mortality from chronic disease, as by sanitary legislation to stay the sources of epidemic death. And, regarding both classes of disease together, those on the one hand which are of endemic origin, (arising in imperfect drainage, in defective water-supply, in ill-devised arrangement of buildings, in offensive and injurious trades, in the putrefaction of burial-grounds, and the like,) with these classes on the other, which arise in the circumstances of individual life, I can have no hesitation in estimating their joint operation at a moiety of our total death-rate, or in renewing an assertion of my last year's report. If the deliberate promises of science be not an empty delusion, it is practicable to reduce human mortality within your jurisdiction to the half of its present average prevalence."

The annual *Cattle Show of the Smithfield Club* was opened on the 9th inst. It was slightly deficient in numbers compared with that of last year, but superior in every other point of excellence. The yearly dinner took place on the following day at Freemason's Tavern, the Duke of Richmond in the chair. The committee have decided that, in future, premiums shall be given for beasts classified according to breed: a perfect revolution in the plan of exhibition, the Smithfield Club having hitherto been the only club which lumped all breeds together, in order to bring the best animals to the top place without reference to breed.

A conference of gentlemen interested in the establishment of *Preventive and Reformatory Schools* was held in Birmingham on the 10th inst. The chair was occupied by Mr. M. D. Hill, the recorder of the borough, and representatives from London, Liverpool, Bristol, Reading, Ipswich, Preston, Aberdeen, and many other places of importance, were present. The chairman, in introducing the business of the conference, dwelt at considerable length upon the necessity of taking steps for the prevention of juvenile crime, and lamented that, as a criminal judge, he was compelled to administer a revengeful system of criminal jurisprudence. Mr. Power, the recorder of Ipswich, gave some interesting details with respect to the success of reformatory instructions. He instanced fifteen thieves, some of whom were the cleverest and most accomplished ones in England, all of whom had become reformed, and were now industrious and honest members of society. He concluded by moving the following resolution: "That the present condition and treatment of the perishing and dangerous classes of children and juvenile offenders deserve the consideration of every member of a Christian community." Other resolutions, declaratory of the views of the conference, were moved by Mr. W. Whitmore and deputies from various parts of the country, and agreed to. A public meeting, in furtherance of the objects of the conference, was held at Dee's Royal Hotel the same evening.

The *National Association* "for the Protection of Industry and Capital throughout the British Empire," held a meeting on the 12th, at the London Tavern. The Duke of Richmond took the chair, and was supported by Lords Malmesbury, Stanhope, Glengall, and a few more of the ultra-protectionists. The sentiments expressed at the meeting were fully in accordance with the well-known character of the speakers, and the resolutions passed were of the usual kind; one, however, was special, recognising the superlative merits of Mr. Geo. Fred. Young, to whom a five-shilling dinner was afterwards given by his admirers.

New works of *Water Supply and Drainage* for the town of Croydon were opened to the public on the 11th instant, with much ceremony; the Archbishop of Canterbury coming from the archiepiscopal palace in the neighbourhood, at the head of the local clergy and the local Board of Health, to deliver an address, and to open the valve which allowed the first flow of water. At a dinner, in the evening, some important statistics were given:—"The water-supply of the metropolis, taking three average London parishes, supplied by trading companies, is 3*l.* a-year per house, or 1*s.* 2*d.* per week,

the supply being intermittent, and polluted by cisterns; whereas at Croydon it will be supplied at 12*s.* per annum per house, being equal to 3*d.* per week, free from all impurities, well aerated and fitted for immediate use at table. The works are provided for the progressive increase of the town; and on doubling the present population, the cost will be but 1½ per house per week generally, and 1*d.* per week to the poorer houses. The present cost of drainage in the metropolis is about 2*l.* per house per year, or 9½*d.* per week; the total cost of the Croydon drainage will average 5*s.* 6*d.* per house per year, or 1½*d.* per week. It is hoped that there will not be in Croydon a single cess-pool, offensive gully-trap, or drain, within or near the habitations. The cost of the Croydon Public Health Act was 103*l.*; whilst the taxed costs for the act for each private town during the sessions of 1849 and 1850 averaged 200*l.* each. The next work will be for applying sewage manure to agricultural purposes."

The number of telegraphic stations now open, and in connection with the London station of the *Electric Telegraph Company*, in Lothbury, amounts to 226, embracing all the principal towns in the kingdom; between which commercial and private despatches are transmitted and answers obtained in a few minutes. Nearly seventy are principal commercial stations, at which the attendance is what is called constant, that is to say, day and night. Additional electric cables are about to be laid down between England and France. The electric telegraph is also to be stretched across to Ireland. Active measures are already on foot to accomplish the work. The length of each single cable will be about sixty miles.

PERSONAL NARRATIVE.

THE Queen and Prince Albert with the royal family have returned from Osborne to Windsor Castle. The Duchess of Kent has taken up her residence at Frogmore. Her Majesty's Royal Charities to nearly one thousand of aged poor at this season have been distributed at the Almshouse, in Whitehall, under the authority of the Lord Bishop of Oxford, Lord High Almoner. The Balmoral estate, recently purchased by the Queen, extends fully seven miles in length by four in breadth, and includes the best deer-range in the Grampian chain. The purchase-money agreed on, is 31,500*l.*

The Lord Primate of Ireland, late Vice-chancellor of the University of Dublin, has been elected Chancellor of the University in the room of the King of Hanover; and the new Chancellor has appointed Lord Chief Justice Blackburn to the Office of Vice-chancellor.

Three thousand pounds have been subscribed to raise the "George Stephenson Testimonial"; and it has been decided, in consonance with the feelings of Mr. Robert Stephenson, to place the statue in the court-yard of the Euston station of the North-western Railway.

Sir Robert Peel announces that his entire stud is to be sold by auction, by Messrs. Tattersall and Son. In the advertisement announcing the sale, it is stated that Sir Robert "is declining hunting with the Atherstone hounds, in consequence of the unsportsmanlike conduct and political animosity, even in the hunting-field, of certain Protectionist farmers."

Messrs. Smith & Son, of the Strand, have taken possession of the *Book and Newspaper Stalls* at the stations of the South-Western Railway. An immense and very valuable stock of books, of a superior class, has been placed on the line.

Sir E. N. Buxton has given the sum of 250*l.* towards the establishment of the proposed new bishopric in the colony of Sierra Leone.

Obituary of Notable Persons.

MARSHAL SOULT died on the 26th of last month, at the Chateau of Salt-Berg, near his native place, St. Amand, in the department of the Tarn, where he was born on the 29th of March, 1769, in the same year as the Emperor Napoleon, the Duke of Wellington, Cuvier, and several more illustrious men.

REAR-ADMIRAL GAGE NORRIS died on the 24th ult., at Beverley, Yorkshire, at the age of 82. He had served nearly sixty-five years.

MR. SAPIO, the once-popular tenor singer, died on the 27th ult., in great indigence.

THE EARL OF SUFFOLK AND BERKSHIRE died at Charlton House, Malmesbury, on the 4th inst., aged 75.

PIESSNITZ, the celebrated founder of hydropathy, died at Grafenberg on the 26th of November, at the age of 52.

WILHELM MEINHOLD, the pastor, author of the "Amber Witch," died on the 30th ult., at Charlottenburg. He was one of the leaders of the old Lutheran party in Pomerania, but had for some years lived in retirement. His son has joined the Catholic Church.

LADY CAROLINE KING died on the 5th inst., in her thirty-third year. She was sister to the Earl of Portland, and married Captain George St. Vincent King, R.N., in 1847.

SIR JOHN GLADSTONE, BART., the father of the Right Hon. W. Gladstone, died on the 7th inst., at Fasque, in his 87th year.

PROFESSOR DUNBAR, of Edinburgh, whose name is familiar to most of Greek scholars died on the 6th inst., at his residence in that city.

JOSEPH WILLIAM TURNER, the grand landscape painter, died at his house in Queen Anne-street, on the 19th inst., at the age of 76.

HENRY LUTTRELL, Esq., died at his house in Brompton-square, on the 19th inst. in his 81st year.

WILLIAM JACOB, Esq., F.R.S., late Comptroller of Corn Returns to the Board of Trade, died in Cadogan-place, on the 17th, in his 80th year.

COLONIES AND DEPENDENCIES.

THE dreary war in Caffraria continues to be drearily discussed, dragging its slow length through military despatches that announce continual success, and through newspaper leaders that prove how little the success is worth. But though the success is worth so little, it is costing nearly a million and a half by the year; and this fact will doubtless sharpen the interest of next session's colonial debates. Taxes and the Caffres will be found in ominous conjunction.

The only important piece of intelligence lately received from India, is the fact that the Nizam has paid up the whole of his debt to the British Government, and has thus secured his political independence.

The accounts from the Cape of Good Hope mention numerous actions between the British troops and the Caffres, in which the former are stated to have always the advantage, though without any results which promise a termination to this disastrous war.

PROGRESS OF EMIGRATION AND COLONISATION.

A parliamentary return has been printed, containing interesting *Statistical Information respecting New Zealand*. Last year the population of the colony was 4047, being an increase of 675 on the preceding year. The actual revenue of the year 1850 was 3506*l.* 18*s.* 5*d.*, and the expenditure 3213*l.* 18*s.* 11*d.* In 1850 the exports were 7116*l.*, being a decrease of 1576*l.* 10*s.* on the preceding year. It is stated that the decrease had arisen by the increased population consuming the flour which otherwise would have been exported. In 1850 the imports

were 17,507*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.*, being an increase of 3253*l.* 1*s.* 6*d.* on the preceding year. There has been a great increase in the number of acres fenced, cleared and cultivated last year, compared with 1849. It appears that the native population within the districts of Wellington, Waikanae, Otaki, Manawatu, Rangitikei, and Wairarapa, in the province of New Munster, is 4711, of which number 2955 are Christians. Of those stated to be Christians, 1148 can read and write, and 444 can read only. There are 39 churches and chapels within the province.

The project of establishing a new convict settlement at New Caledonia, in the Southern Archipelago, has, it is stated, for some time occupied the attention of Government, and active steps for the purpose are at this moment under consideration. The island is described by those who have visited it in whaling-ships, as presenting resources of a most valuable character, teeming with vegetation, and abounding in varieties of timber of the best description, suitable alike for shipbuilding and other useful purposes, whilst the climate is, at the same time, said to be delightfully salubrious, and the harbours already known safe and capacious.

NARRATIVE OF FOREIGN EVENTS.

THE dismay which M. Bonaparte's *coup d'état* has carried into Belgium, Switzerland, and Piedmont, no less than the delight which has hailed it in the palaces of Vienna and St. Petersburg, indicates pretty plainly the direction in which the interest of continental affairs is now likely for some time to be concentrated. In America M. Kossuth's reception appears to have been of a mixed kind—doubtful from the authorities, enthusiastic from the people; but under the influence of his remarkable oratory the warmer feeling is on the increase, and that his crusade through the States will not be suffered to pass off as a mere lionising excitement becomes daily more and more evident.

We have to record the commencement of *Another Revolution in France*. All the political questions which had occupied the Assembly and the public mind since the commencement of the Session, have been at once put an end to by a sudden *Coup d'Etat* of the President. Down to Tuesday the 2nd of this month, no remarkable occurrence had taken place in addition to those mentioned in our last number. But, on the morning of that day, the inhabitants of Paris awoke to find the city occupied by troops, and a decree by the President posted on every wall, announcing the dissolution of the National Assembly and of the Council of State, the re-establishment of universal suffrage, and the establishment of the "state of siege" throughout the first military division. It was further announced that "the French people were convoked in its elective colleges from the 14th to

the 21st of December." There were also proclamations, addressed to the people and the army. The address to the people contained the outline of a new constitution: "Persuaded," said the President, "that the instability of the Government and the preponderance of a single Assembly are permanent causes of trouble and disorder, I submit to your suffrages the following fundamental basis of a Constitution which Assemblies will develop afterwards:—1. A responsible head, named for ten years. 2. Ministers dependent on the Executive Power alone. 3. A council of state, formed of the most eminent men, preparing the laws and supporting the discussion of them before the legislative body. 4. A legislative body discussing and voting laws, named by universal suffrage, without *scrutin de liste*, which falsifies the election. 5. A second Assembly, formed of all the illus-

trious of the country, a preponderating power, guardian of the fundamental compact and of public liberties. The system created by the First Consul at the commencement of the century has already given to France repose and prosperity; and it would again guarantee them to it. Such is my profound conviction. If you share in it, declare it by your suffrages. If, on the contrary, you prefer a government with strength, monarchical or republican, borrowed from I know not what past, or from some chimerical future, reply negatively. Thus, then, for the first time since 1804, you will vote with a knowledge of what you are doing, in knowing well for whom and for what. If I do not obtain the majority of your suffrages, I will then call for the meeting of a new Assembly, and I will give up the charge which I have received from you. But if you believe that the cause of which my name is the symbol—that is to say, France regenerated by the revolution of '89, and organised by the Emperor—is still your own, proclaim it by consecrating the powers which I ask from you. Then France and Europe will be preserved from anarchy, obstacles will be removed, rivalities will have disappeared, for all will respect, in the decision of the people, the decree of Providence. Given at the Palace of the Elysée, this 2nd day of December, 1851."

The events of the preceding night became gradually known to the astonished citizens. The President had held a brilliant reception at the Elysée in the evening, when he appeared more than usually gay. At an early hour in the morning a number of the leading members of the Assembly, among whom were Generals Changarnier, Cavaignac, Bèdeau, Leflo, and Lamoricière, and Messrs. Thiers, Roger du Nord, Baze, Baune, Greppo, Miot, Naclaud, Lagrange, and Valentin,—were arrested in their beds and conveyed to prison. The President's proclamations, printed at a private press in the palace, were posted on the walls, and the city was occupied by troops, before daylight. A line of infantry extended from the Porte Royale along the Quay d'Orsay, cavalry occupied the Place de la Concorde; and at all the bridges were stationed batteries of field artillery. The gardens of the Tuileries were closed; and troops surrounded the Louvre, and occupied the faubourgs. Meanwhile the representatives of the people, hearing that some of their colleagues had been arrested hastened in great numbers to the hall of the Assembly. They found the doors guarded by the Chasseurs de Vincennes, a corps recently returned from Africa. They nevertheless endeavoured to enter, having one of their vice-presidents, M. Daru (M. Dussin, the president, not having made his appearance) at their head. M. Daru was violently struck by the soldiers, and the representatives were driven back at the point of the bayonet. Some of them were slightly wounded, and others had their clothes pierced. Driven from the doors of the Assembly, the deputies retired to the Mairie of the 10th arrondissement. They were already assembled to the number of about 300, when the troops arrived, blocked up the approaches, and prevented a greater number of representatives from entering the apartment, though no one was at that time prevented from leaving it. Every shade of opinion was represented in this extemporaneous Assembly. Besides its Vice-Presidents, the Assembly was accompanied by its secretaries, its ushers, and even its shorthand writer. Thus constituted, it voted the following decree:—

"In pursuance of Article 68 of the Constitution—viz., the President of the Republic, the Ministers, the agents, and depositaries of public authority are responsible, each in what concerns themselves respectively, for all the acts of the government and the administration—any measure by which the President of the Republic dissolves the National Assembly, prorogues it, or places obstacles in the exercise of its powers, is a crime of high treason. By this act merely the President is deprived of all authority, the citizens are bound to withhold their obedience, the executive power has passed in full right to the National Assembly. The judges of the high court of justice will meet immediately under pain of forfeiture; they will convoke the juries in the place which they will select to proceed to the judgment of the President and his accomplices; they will nominate

the magistrates charged to fulfil the duties of public ministers. And seeing [that the National Assembly is prevented by violence from exercising its powers, it decrees as follows, viz., Louis Napoleon Bonaparte is deprived of all authority as President of the Republic. The citizens are enjoined to withhold their obedience. The executive power has passed in full right to the National Assembly. The judges of the high court of justice are enjoined to meet immediately, under pain of forfeiture, to proceed to the judgment of the President and his accomplices; consequently all the officers and functionaries of power and of public authority are bound to obey all requisitions made in the name of the National Assembly, under pain of forfeiture and of high treason. Done and decreed unanimously in public sitting, this 2nd of December, 1851."

This decree was signed by the vice-presidents, the secretaries, and two hundred and thirty members. Another decree was unanimously passed naming General Oudinot commander of the public forces, with M. Tamisier as the chief of his staff. These decrees had scarcely been signed, when a band of soldiers, headed by their officers, sword in hand, appeared at the door of the chamber. The Assembly awaited them in perfect silence. The President alone raised his voice, read the decrees which had just been passed to the soldiers, and ordered them to retire. The men, apparently ashamed of the part they were compelled to play, hesitated, and the officers said they should go for further orders. They retired, contenting themselves with blockading the passages leading to the apartment. The Assembly, not being able to go out, ordered the windows to be opened, and caused the decrees to be read to the people and the troops in the street below, especially that decree which, in pursuance of the 68th article of the constitution, pronounced the deposition and impeachment of Louis Napoleon. In a short time the soldiers reappeared at the door, preceded by two Commissaires de Police, who summoned the representatives to disperse. The President ordered them to retire themselves. "We are here," he said, "the lawful authority, and sole representatives of law and of right. We know that we cannot oppose to you material force, but we will only leave this chamber under constraint. We will not disperse. Seize us, and convey us to prison." "All, all," exclaimed the members of the Assembly. After much hesitation, the Commissaires de Police decided to act. The two Presidents were seized by the collar. The whole body then rose, and, arm-in-arm, two-and-two, they followed the Presidents, who were led off. In this order they reached the street, and were marched across the city to the barracks of the Quay d'Orsay, where they were shut. Though night was coming on, and it was wet and cold, they were left two hours in the open street, there the representatives made their last roll-call in presence of their shorthand writer, who had followed them. The number present was 218, to whom were added about twenty more in the course of the evening, consisting of members who had voluntarily surrendered themselves. Almost all the men known to France and to Europe who formed the majority of the Legislative Assembly were gathered together in this place. There were present, among others, the Duke de Broglie, who had come, though ill; the father of the house, the venerable Keratry, whom it was necessary to seat on a straw chair in the barrack-yard; Odilon Barrot, Dufaure, Berryer, Rémusat, Duvergier de Hauranne, Gustave de Beaumont, de Tocqueville, de Falloux, Lanjuinais, Admiral Laine, and Admiral Cécille, Generals Oudinot and Lauriston, the Duke de Luynes, the Duke de Montebello; twelve ex-Ministers, nine of whom had served under Louis Napoleon himself; eight members of the Institute; all men who had struggled for three years in defence of law and order. After having been kept two hours in the yard, they were driven into barrack-rooms up stairs, where they spent the night, stretched on the bare boards, without fire and almost without food. They were then packed into vans used for the conveyance of criminals, and were carried to different prisons, Mont Valerien, Mazas, and Vincennes. Two days afterwards, however, the government found it necessary to set the greater number of them at liberty. The Generals arrested in their own

houses, were sent, in the same ignominious vehicles, to the fortress of Ham, more than a day's journey from Paris. M. Thiers was conveyed to the German frontier. The decrees of the representatives who met as the undissolved Assembly was published in lithograph on the same afternoon. It was carried into the Court of Cassation. The court immediately proclaimed the deposition of the President, in terms of the resolution of the Assembly; but just at that moment an order came from the minister of justice that the court should go no further in the affair, and the judges at once adjourned, precipitately. The high court of justice, convoked by M. Hardoin, one of its members, met at the Palace of Justice, to summon the President before it. After consulting some time, it separated without coming to any decision. While the legislative element of the constitution was thus destroyed, measures were taken to disarm the power of the press. All the offices of the journals were occupied by the military, and none of the journals, except the government organs, were allowed to appear. During the whole of this day the people remained quiet and apparently indifferent, and there was so little alarm that even the jewellers' shops remained open as usual. At a late hour in the evening, the attitude of the populace was so calm that the troops were ordered to their quarters. Precautions, however, were not overlooked. Regiments were already pouring into Paris from the provinces; and the prefects of departments were everywhere enjoined to exercise the most ceaseless vigilance and prompt energy.

On the following morning, Wednesday, the 3rd, it became publicly known that the President had dismissed his Ministers, on the ground that he was unwilling to compromise them by implicating them in his acts; and that he had appointed a new Ministry of which the principal members were, M. de Morny, Interior; Fould, Finance; Rouher, Justice; Magne, Public Works; Le Rouche, Marine; Casabianca, Commerce; St. Arnaud, War; Fortoul, Public Instruction; Turgot, Foreign Affairs. A decree was promulgated regulating the proposed election. It convoked the people in their districts, for the 14th instant, to accept or reject "the following plébiscite:"—"The French people wills the maintenance of the authority of Louis Napoleon Bonaparte, and delegates to him the powers necessary to frame a constitution on the basis proposed in his proclamation of the 2nd December." All Frenchmen aged twenty-seven, and enjoying their civil rights, were called on to vote. The period of voting to be the eight days ending on the 21st instant. The Minister of War addressed a circular to the generals of the army and the chiefs of corps, ordering that the soldiers were to vote for the election of a President within forty-eight hours from the receipt of the circular. A provisional Consultative Commission, in lieu of the abolished Council of State, was nominated; embracing Messieurs Baroche, Drouyn de l'Huys, Admiral Cécille, MM. Montalembert, Lucien Murat, and seventy-five other distinguished members of the late National Assembly. The tranquillity which had hitherto prevailed was first interrupted on this day. A member of the mountain, M. Baudin, appeared on horseback in the Rue St. Antoine, followed by several other members of the same party, and endeavoured to excite the workmen to rise. He succeeded in getting together a small body, who threw up two slight barricades. Troops were instantly marched against them, and, after a brief skirmish, the barricades were taken, Baudin and another representative being killed on the spot, and several of their followers wounded. Decrees were immediately put forth by the prefect of police and the Minister of War, declaring that every person taken in the act of erecting or defending a barricade, or bearing arms, should suffer according to the most vigorous laws of war. Groups were to be dispersed by the armed force and without previous notice; and the circulation of public carriages was prohibited. During Wednesday night, several representatives of the Mountain passed through the streets, attempting to address the people; but they were everywhere prevented. The body of one of the representatives, shot at the barricade in the Faubourg St. Antoine, was put on a litter and carried through several streets. When it came down the Boulevards, causing great excitement in its course,

the bearers were met by troops, and turned into a bye-street. Here there was such resistance that the troops charged, and fired; and two of the men carrying the corpse were killed. Proclamations signed by Michel of Bourges, Soelcher, and others, calling on the people to fight, and offering to lead them, were posted in a multitude of places, but were speedily observed and removed. Another proclamation, by Victor Hugo, told the people that the National Guards and the Line were marching on Paris to depose Louis Napoleon as an usurper. A proclamation appeared here and there, signed by Emile Girardin and all the members of the Left, declaring that the Assembly was undissolved, and that, through the treason of the President it was now the only legal power, and the sole Executive: it therefore called on the army, "at their peril," to obey the Assembly.

Thursday, the 3rd, opened gloomily. From an early hour of the morning the quarter of the Faubourg St. Antoine was astir, and temporary barricades of the slightest materials were thrown up here and there, and abandoned on the appearance of the troops, whom it appeared to be the wish of the populace to harass. The alarm began to spread, and the shops in the neighbourhood of the disturbed quarter remained closed. Barricades of a more formidable character were thrown up at the Porte St. Denis, Porte St. Martin, Rues Baubourg, Transnonian, St. Mery, and St. Martin—amounting in all to more than one hundred—before information could be forwarded to the troops. Before twelve o'clock the aspect of affairs became so serious that all the small posts of soldiers were withdrawn, to prevent their being surprised and disarmed by the rioters, and shortly afterwards three or four regiments of cavalry and as many of infantry, with six battalions of artillery, were marched upon the disaffected quarter, and fierce and determined conflicts commenced at the barricades. It was rumoured that shots were fired from Tortoni's coffee-house upon the troops, and it was immediately attacked by the soldiery. The same plea was urged for attacking M. Sallandrouze's carpet manufactory, which was riddled with cannon, and at least thirty of the workmen killed. Charges of large bodies of Lancers were made every five minutes to clear the Boulevards. No quarter was given to the insurgents, and a number of persons taken between two barricades in the Rue Chapon were shot on the spot. Before two o'clock there were 30,000 troops of all arms on the Boulevards, and the most peremptory orders were issued by the officers that the windows of the houses should be kept closed, and that no persons should show themselves in the balconies or they would be fired at. Volleys were fired at windows, and several persons were killed. The large barrier at the Porte St. Denis was not taken till after two hours' hard fighting, and the loss of from fifty to a hundred lives. The Mairie of the fifth arrondissement was besieged and taken, and forty of the National Guards were deprived of their arms. At this time the populace appeared to be entire masters of the quarters St. Denis and St. Martin, and all the houses at the angles of the Boulevards were filled with men armed with swords and muskets. Some regiments of the line and Chasseurs de Vincennes were at length brought up, and the insurgents were driven off at all points. At the Porte St. Martin the greatest loss of life appears to have taken place; the defenders of the barricade at St. Denis having, when they fled from it, been caught between two fires, and after the barricade was taken some hundreds of dead and wounded were found behind it. In the middle of the day a formidable attempt was made by the insurgents, moving from different quarters, to get possession of the Bank and the Post-office; but the large force stationed in the Rue de Pagevin having deployed into line, the populace, after firing a few volleys, retreated. During the greater part of the day the bank was partially blockaded, as by some accident the communication with the main body of the troops was not kept up, and the one hundred and fifty soldiers stationed there were without provisions, the barricades erected in the neighbourhood cutting off their communications and supplies. At four o'clock, however, the barricades were carried, and the garrison relieved. At eight o'clock in the evening tranquillity had been completely restored, the fighting had ceased on all sides,

the insurgents would appear to have been completely disheartened by their want of success, and the harassed troops were permitted to repose after their bloody victory. From the ample details given by the correspondents of the principal London papers, we extract a few passages which will give an idea of the scenes of this lamentable day. The greatest slaughter took place on the Boulevard Montmartre and Boulevard des Italiens. "The people," says the correspondent of the *Daily News* "were idling about without any special object—most from curiosity—none, it would seem, with any hostile intention. The soldiers themselves were conversing freely with the populace, and the greatest good-humour prevailed. On a sudden, some person from a side-street fired a pistol—from a window, it is believed. This was the signal for a general firing on the part of the troops, without the slightest warning or preparation, and a rattling and deadly discharge was opened upon the quivering and retreating mass. Round after round poured upon them with fatal precision. Any of your readers who have heard bullets whizzing about their ears, and seen them chipping the stone pavement and stone walls, and flying into houses amidst the clatter of broken glass, may form some notion of the panic of the unarmed mob. It is certain that very few fell with their wounds in front. My informant was certainly not prepared to make any such sacrifice. As he made the best of his way from the scene, men were falling around him on all sides—ones, twos, threes—little groups falling in heaps, and clasped together in dying agonies. Leaping over their corpses, with that terrible instinct of self-preservation which knows no pity, my friend succeeded in gaining the shelter of a shop, followed, I may almost say, by a bullet, which missed him by a hair's-breadth. Then came the scene of desolation when all was over—the carrying of the wounded to the hospitals, of the dead to—Heaven knows where. The sad, sullen aspect of the soldiery, when their work was done, had in it something portentous; and many a scared, spirit-broken *ouvrier*, who ventured to take the Boulevard on his way home, might be seen regarding these symptoms with mingled hope and fear. Some of the soldiers who had taken part in the attack were subsequently met by the gentleman of whom I have spoken, in a wine-shop. According to their own account, they had as little anticipated the order to fire on the people themselves; against whom they professed not to have the slightest ill-will: but the order was given, and it was their habit to obey, and *voula tout*." It appears from various accounts, that such of the people as did fight were almost everywhere gentlemen or shopkeepers, never workmen. There is also evidence that the earliest builders of the barricades were police-agents—in order to provoke that popular antagonism to the Government which was to justify the extreme exercise of the military power. One police-agent thus employed was shot before he escaped, and made the dying confession to his mother. While passing opposite to the Rue Vivienne, the soldiers fired several times on the passers-by; who were for the most part persons belonging to the Bourse, coming from their business. These unhappy men took refuge, as well as they could, behind door-ways: whenever they showed themselves and tried to get away, the soldiers fired upon them again. Two young men had been to visit a female friend. After quitting her house, they reached the Boulevard at the moment when the soldiers were about to fire. Their first impulse was to rush towards the bell of a neighbouring house-door; but as five other persons followed their example, the porter refused to open the door. All the seven threw themselves on the ground: the younger of these two men lay under his elder brother. The soldiers fired; and out of these seven persons, two only arose from the ground; one of these was the younger of the two brothers—the other, a woman. The elder brother, wounded by a ball, and having one of his arteries torn, lay bleeding and in agony. His younger brother threw himself on the body, and clasped it in a distraction of sorrow. When the soldiers came up, in their onward march, he implored them to leave him near his dying brother. But they drove him away with the butt-ends of their muskets, saying, "Get away with you! don't you see that he

has not two minutes to live?" In the official accounts published by the Government, it is stated that, on the side of the people, whether insurgents or spectators, the killed were 800; on the side of the army, one officer and seventeen men were killed, and seventeen officers and 167 privates wounded. But unofficial accounts worthy of credit place the deaths of the people at nearly 2000. The officer killed was Lieutenant-Colonel Loubeau, of the 72nd Regiment; who was shot through the chest as he advanced on the barricade of the Rue St. Denis, cheering his men on with his shako on the end of his sword. Among those of the people who perished, were the representative Baudin, and the brother of Gaston Dussoubs, member for the department of Haute Vienne, who fell fighting on a barricade; M. Reims, an eminent journalist, formerly editor of the *Courrier Français*, also perished on a barricade. Among those accidentally killed were two Englishmen,—Mr. Peter Pariss, a well-known apothecary, of the Place Vendôme; and Mr. Hoff, brother of a dentist in Paris. Mr. Pariss was proceeding to an establishment which he possessed in the Faubourg St. Denis, and had reached the corner of Rue Rougemont, when the firing took place; he was desperately wounded in two places, and died three hours afterwards. Besides this loss of life, the destruction of property was immense.

On Friday, the 5th, there was no renewal of fighting, but several unprovoked outrages were committed by the soldiers. In the morning a body of 50 or 60 men, having the appearance of respectable bourgeois, assembled in the Boulevard Poissonniere; as they passed a body of troops, an officer recognised, or pretended to recognise, one of them as an insurgent of the previous day. He was arrested and made no resistance, but the party from whom he was taken cried, "Vive la Republique!" on which the soldiers fired and laid thirty of them dead.—Near the Madeleine, a troop of Lancers rode down a number of men, women, and children, who were promenading in their own neighbourhood without apprehension of any violence. No weapons were used, but many were dangerously wounded from being trodden on by horses. Large masses of military still occupied the main places in Paris on Saturday and Sunday. Five thousand soldiers held the *entrepôt* of the Custom House in the Faubourg du Temple. But on Saturday the gardens of the Tuileries were open all day, and the passage of the Louvre free; some law courts again held their sittings; the shops re-opened, and many of the theatres. On Sunday morning, the streets were crowded with carriages and well-dressed people, anxious to see the scene of the late contest; and in the evening all the theatres were opened, and as much filled as usual. Since then, the city has remained quiet. One of the President's first measures was the suppression of the newspapers. The only journals allowed to appear were the *Moniteur*, the *Constitutionnel*, the *Patrie*—all government or governmental papers, and the *Débats* and a half-sheet impression of the *Assemblée*. The offices of the *National*, *Opinion Publique*, *Messenger*, *Republique*, *Ordre*, *Siccle*, and *La Presse*, were all occupied by soldiers. Some of these papers have since re-appeared, abstaining from all notice of political events. On Thursday, the President issued a decree modifying the provisions of the previous decree respecting the suffrage. It was now declared that all Frenchmen were called to vote who were aged twenty-one years and in the possession of their civil and political rights; and that the suffrage should take place by secret ballot on the 20th and 21st of December. But the suffrages of the army had already begun to be taken by open voting. The votes of the army were—for, 243,854; against, 16,384; abstaining, 845.—When the *coup d'état* was known in the provinces, disturbances broke out in many places, but were speedily suppressed by military force.

The vote by ballot for the election of Louis Napoleon as president, took place throughout France on the 20th and 21st. The result of the polls in eighty-three departments, up to the 27th, was as follows: Yes, 6,710,000; No, 584,171. The conclusion of the election is to be celebrated by a grand mass and a Te Deum in the cathedral of Notre Dame.

The President has decreed that the Pantheon be

restored to the Roman Catholic worship; and the building is to be consecrated by the Archbishop of Paris.

The corps diplomatique have all presented themselves at Louis Napoleon's receptions, with only one exception: Mr. Rives, the American minister, holds aloof, until he receive instructions from Washington. M. Kisseleff, the Russian minister, did not postpone his congratulations till the ordinary reception-day, but went at once, and stated that he was sure he would be warranted in stating that the *coup d'état* would delight the Czar.

The Queen of Spain was delivered of a princess on the 20th inst.—The American prisoners, belonging to Lopez's expedition, and taken in Cuba, have been set at liberty.

It appears by the accounts from Vienna and Berlin, that all political interest is absorbed in the intelligence from Paris. A special mission had arrived at Berlin from Louis Napoleon to the Prussian court.

Intelligence from Malta, dated the 8th instant, states that the island of Sicily has been swept by two enormous water-spouts, accompanied by a terrific hurricane. Those who witnessed the phenomena describe the water-spouts as two immense spherical bodies of water reaching from the clouds, their cones nearly touching the earth, at a quarter of a mile apart, travelling with immense velocity. They passed over the island near Marsala. In their progress, houses were unroofed, trees uprooted, men and women, horses, cattle, and

sheep, were raised up into the vortex, and borne on to destruction; during their passage rain descended in cataracts, accompanied with hailstones of enormous size, and masses of ice. Going over Castellamare, near Stabia, they destroyed half the town, and washed 200 of the inhabitants into the sea, who all perished. Upwards of 500 persons had been destroyed by the terrible visitation, and an immense amount of property; the country being laid waste for miles. The shipping in the harbour suffered severely, many vessels being destroyed and their crews drowned. After the occurrence, numbers of dead bodies were picked up, all frightfully mutilated and swollen.

The American Congress assembled at Washington on the 1st inst., and the President delivered his message on the 2nd; a document, as usual, of great length, which enters minutely into the foreign relations and domestic affairs of the United States.

Kossuth arrived at New York on the 5th, and has been received with all the enthusiasm which was anticipated. His speeches, reported at great length in the New York papers, display the same ability and eloquence which were so remarkable in England.

Some sensation has been created by one of Her Majesty's ships, the "Express," having fired over the American steam-ship, "Prometheus," in the harbour of Greystown, the capital of Mosquitia, and compelling her to return to her anchorage and pay certain harbour dues demanded by the port authorities. The British Government has been called upon for an explanation.

NARRATIVE OF LITERATURE AND ART.

A RECENT report of the Synodicate of Cambridge, which shows how little the most advanced of these great institutions is disposed to move of its own accord in the direction of improvement, and a recent and very marked decline in the Class Lists of Oxford, have had the effect of reviving public interest in the discussion of University Reform, and in the announced publication of the first Report of the Commission of Inquiry, which may now (we believe) be daily expected.

Making exception of the picture and gift-books, the pocket-books and almanacs, peculiar to this season of the year and not calling for mention in our list, the publications of the past month have not been remarkable either for number or importance. They are soon recounted.

Lord Mahon has continued his *History of England* in two goodly volumes, which carry the narrative through those seventeen of the earliest years of George the Third's reign which embrace the agitation of Wilkes, the letters of Junius, and the commencement of the War of American Independence. In a *History of Sir Charles Napier's Administration of Scinde*, Sir William Napier has given the world another striking evidence of the way in which the members of this remarkable family find pleasure in talking of each other. To Mr. Colquhoun we are indebted for a *History of Magic, Witchcraft, and Magnetism*, of which the object is to reconcile the doctrines and discoveries of Mesmer to the objections of science.

Mr. McGillivray, the naturalist to the expedition sent out to facilitate what is called "the outer passage" for ships sailing between New South Wales and the Eastern Seas, has published an intelligent and valuable *Narrative of the Voyage of H.M.S. Rattlesnake*, communicating many curious particulars of the aborigines of our Australian settlements. Sir Francis Head has put together some sketches of the out-door surface of French life and manners, taken a few months ago, under the title of a *Faggot of French Sticks*. Several novels have been published, of which the most noticeable are the *Head of the Family* and *Jacob Bendizen the Jew*, the latter a singular picture by a foreign writer of the internal life of Judaism, for which we have to thank Mrs. Howitt. One or two books on *Physical Geography*, a science making evident progress in our place of education, has also appeared; and some few German translations.

Finally we have to mention one or two interesting additions to the department of biography. Mr. Disraeli has written a bulky volume on the brief political career of his friend Lord George Bentinck. Miss Kavanagh has given us a volume on *Women of Christianity Exemplary for Acts of Piety and Charity*. Mrs. Bray has written a *Life of Stothard*, which the care and taste of Mr. Murray, the publisher, has made also a pleasing pictorial record of the beauties and graces of that delightful artist. And a good translation has been issued of Count Cesare Balbo's valuable *Life and Times of Dante Alighieri*.

The following gentlemen have been elected officers of the Royal Academy for the ensuing year:—Sir C. L. Eastlake, President; Council:—T. Creswick, R. Redgrave, F. Grant, and C. R. Leslie, Esqrs. Visitors in the Life Academy: C. W. Cope, W. Dyce, S. A. Hart, P. M'Dowell, and R. Redgrave, Esqrs. Visitors in the School of Painting: G. Jones, C. Landseer, W. Mulready, and C. Stanfield, Esqrs. Auditors re-elected: W. Mulready, Esq., Sir R. Westmacott, and C. Barry, Esq.

Mr. Bunn, once more lessee of Drury Lane, has opened the theatre with a company, as he has announced, embracing every branch of the drama. He has produced *Fazio*, and *The Belle's Stratagem*; in the former play Miss Glyn, and in the latter Miss Fitzpatrick, both from Sadler's Wells, have appeared with success. No dramatic piece of any note has been brought out during the month, the theatres being occupied with their Christmas pantomimes.

Haydn's celebrated cantata, the *Seasons*, has been performed at Exeter Hall; the Sacred Harmonic Society having, in this instance, relaxed their rule of confining themselves to subjects essentially sacred.

COMMERCIAL RECORD.

BANKRUPTS.

From the Gazette of Dec. 2nd.—J. CLARE, Upwell, Cambridge-shire, miller.—W. BOYCE, sen., Dover, hotel-keeper.—W. M. NEILL, Liverpool, merchant.—W. RAWLINS, Mill-street, Warwickshire, maltster.—R. JACKSON, Nottingham, butcher.—J. LONGBOTTOM and T. FAWCETT, Leeds, cloth-merchants.—S. CROSLAND, Elland, Yorkshire, corn-miller.—W. MASON, Halifax, draper.—A. CRAYEN, Leeds, cloth-manufacturer.—M. ORME and W. H. LYNNAS, Liverpool, ale-merchants.—E. WARING, Liverpool, innkeeper.—W. W. KING, Liverpool, chemist.

Dec. 5th.—H. CLARK, Bank-chambers, stock-broker.—T. S. CURTIES, York-street, Westminster, cheesemonger.—W. WILLIAMS and R. M. MARCHANT, Great George-street, contractors for public works.—W. PULLEIN, Friday-street, warehouseman.—J. FULLER, City-road, glass-merchant.—W. KIRBY, Stockwell Park-road, Stockwell, builder, and Deptford, victualler.—J. NICHOLSON, Woolwich, grocer.—D. LITTLE, Liverpool, merchant.—S. WHARTON, Hartford, Cheshire, wine-merchant.—F. DEANE, Liverpool, merchant.—J. WAGSTAFF, Worcester, cattle-dealer.—R. CALDICOTT, Cardiff, grocer.—T. WILCE, Rourdan, Gloucestershire, grocer.—R. SEYMOUR, Sunderland, linen-draper.

Dec. 9th.—A. R. DAVIES, New-court, Bow-lane, wine-merchant.—J. BATES, Highgate, plumber.—T. A. YOUNG, Woolwich, wine-merchant.—W. NASH, Noble-street, woollen-warehouseman.—R. BILLING, Reading, builder.—C. J. POWELL, Kingston-upon-Thames, draper.—T. FRAY, Manchester, check-manufacturer.—T. BISCH, Manchester, brewer.—I. ORRELL, Radcliffe, Lancashire, cotton-manufacturer.—J. STOREY, Hartlepool, draper.—R. FOWKE, Wolverhampton, chemist.—S. LITCHFIELD, Birmingham, druggist.—W. TOMLINSON, jun., Hinchley, draper.—R. WELSH, Huddersfield, woollen-cloth merchant.—J. CHILD and W. BARREK, Wakefield, railway-contractors.—I. NORMINGTON, Bradford, Yorkshire, stuff-manufacturer.—C. WARD, Liverpool, miller.—J. FLEETWOOD, Liverpool, grocer.—G. PRIDE and Co., Liverpool, sail-makers.—W. N. MONTES, Liverpool, wine-merchant.

Dec. 12th. C. J. SANDERS, Collingwood-street, Blackfriars-road, provision-merchant.—J. MASH, Colchester, draper.—T. SALKELD, Basinghall-street, warehouseman.—W. MASHMAN, Charlotte-street, Portland-place, carpenter.—F. PEGLER, Hampton, grocer.—C. H. GAUSDEN, Hove, Sussex, licensed victualler.—J. BILL, Wolverhampton, hinge-manufacturer.—T. P. DIXON, Falmouth, printer.—E. FOWLER, Bristol, draper.—H. SHAW, Houses-hill, and H. GARTHWAITHE, Mold-green, Huddersfield, fancy-manufacturers.—R. NORRIS, Beverly, innkeeper.—I. HODGKINSON (otherwise BRADSHAW), Bolton-le-Moors, iron-founder.—W. N. MONIES, Liverpool, and J. RICHARDSON, jun., Glasgow, spirit-merchants.

Dec. 16th. J. BENNETT, Woolwich, carpenter.—G. BETTS, Fomecote St. Peter, Norfolk, draper.—N. GEARY, St. James's-street, Piccadilly, stay-maker.—G. STANER, jun., Margate, baker.—J. P. GODFREY, Cullumpton, Devonshire, paper-maker.—F. E. PAREDY, Sherborne, wine-merchant.—F. BLANEY, Gwneup, Cornwall, grocer.—G. FLETCHER and A. CRAYEN, Leeds, cloth-manufacturers.—J. EYRE, Sheffield, grocer.—E. WILKINSON and T. BENTLEY, Liverpool, tailors.—I. ABRAHAMS, Liverpool, tailor.—C. BAINBRIDGE, Birkenhead, ironmonger.

Dec. 19th. E. CURTIS, Blackfriars-road, cheesemonger.—J. RUTTY, Gerrard-street, draper.—W. UREN, Totness, builder.—J. HADFIELD, Manchester, cotton-spinner.—J. DUGGAN, Maryport, Cumberland, draper.—P. LAWTON, Liverpool, chemist.—J. THOMPSON and W. LEITH, Liverpool, timber-merchants.—G. PRIDE (not PRIDE, as before advertised) and Co., Liverpool, sail-makers.

Dec. 23rd.—G. MARTIN, Bishop's Stortford, sack-manufacturer.—D. L. WILLIAMS, Llandillo, coal-owner.—R. N. REEVE, Newgate-street, woollen-draper.—T. BURTENSHAW, Southwark-bridge-road, builder.—E. K. STANLEY, Norwich, carpenter.—D. BLAKE, jun., George-street, City, mohair-merchant.—R. W. JOHNSON, Gloucester, wine-merchant.—R. BAER and J. SYKES, Huddersfield, spinners.—J. NORWOOD, Smith, corn-factor.—T. ATKINSON, Leeds, grocer.—A. DUNBAR, Halifax, boot-maker.—R. SUTCLIFFE, Warrington, cotton-manufacturer.—J. SHERWIN, Liverpool, baker.—J. WARBURTON, Liverpool, tailor.—J. THOMPSON (and not THOMPSON, as before advertised) and W. LEITH, Liverpool, timber-merchants.

Dec. 26th.—T. TILDEN, Hayes, Kent, maltster.—H. ARMSTRONG, Norwich, linen-draper.—C. L. MEATES, Conduit-street, Hanover-square, grocer.—R. TALBOT, Lincoln, dealer in galvanic machines.—W. MALLIBAND, Great Claybrook, Leicestershire, fellmonger.—F. TANDY, Stourbridge, ironmonger.—H. and L. DIXON, Liverpool, merchants.—R. M'KEAN, Liverpool, engineer.—W. GOSSAGE, Prescott, Lancashire, chemist.—W. FARELL, Liverpool, provision-dealer.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.

Dec. 23rd. R. W. DADD, Chatham, victualler.

MONEY MARKET.

The great event of the month, the Revolution in France, has not had the effects which might have been expected, either on the French or English funds. The French *rentes* rose considerably after the President's *coup d'état*, though there has subsequently been some re-action. In the English funds there has been no fluctuations of importance. In Foreign Stocks, and in Railway Shares, the prices have continued firm.

STOCKS.	Highest.	Lowest.	Latest.
Three per Cent. Consols	98	67½	97½
Three per Cent. Reduced	97½	96	97½
Three and a quarter per Cents.	99	96½	98
Long Annuities, Jan. 1860	7	7	7
Bank Stock, 7 per cent.	215½	214½	215½
India Stock	264	262	262
Exchequer Bills, £1000	55	48	54pm
India Bonds, £1000	65	58	64pm

FOREIGN FUNDS.—LATEST PRICES.

Belgian 4½ per cent., 92½	Peruvian 5 per cent., 91½
Brazilian 5 per cent., 94½	Portuguese 4 per cent., 32½
Chilian 6 per cent., 101	Russian 4½ per cent., 102½
Danish 3 per cent., 102½	Sardinian 84½
Dutch 4 p. c. certificates, 89½	Spanish 5 per cent., acc., 21½
Mexican 5 per cent., 27 acc.	

Paid.	RAILWAYS.	Highest.	Lowest.	Latest.
100	Brighton and South Coast.	95½	94½	95½
100	Bristol and Exeter	81	81	81
all	Blackwall	7	6½	7
50	Caledonian	16	15½	16½
20	Eastern Counties	7	6½	7
50	Edinburgh and Glasgow	27	26	26½
all	Great Northern	19	18½	19
100	Great Western	87	81	87
100	Lancashire and Yorkshire	59½	52	59½
100	Midland	58	50½	58
25	North British	71	63	71
100	North-Western	117½	112½	117½
30	South-Eastern	21½	19½	21½
100	South-Western	86	80	86
25	York, Newc., and Berwick	18½	17	18½
50	York and North Midland	23	19½	23

FOREIGN RAILWAYS.—LATEST PRICES.

Doulogne and Amiens, 10½	Paris and Orleans, 40.
Dutch Rhensish, 41 dis.	Paris and Rouen, 25½
East Indian, 3 p.	Paris and Strasbourg, 15½
Namur and Liege, 6½	Rouen and Havre, 9½
Northern of France, 16½	Tours and Nantes, 8½

CORN MARKET.—LONDON WEEKLY AVERAGES.

Wheat, per qr., 36s. to 45s.; Oats, 18s. to 21s.; Rye, 26s.; Beans, 26s. to 31s.; Peas, 30s. to 34s.; Flour per sack, 34s. to 37s. American, per barrel of 196lbs., 17s. to 21s.

PROVISIONS.—LATEST WHOLESALE PRICES.

Bacon, per cwt.—Limerick, 56s to 63s. Belfast, 56s. to 63s.	Eggs, per 120, English, 6s. 3d. to 7s.
Beef, per tierce, prime mess, 70s. to 80s.	Hams, per cwt.—York or Cumberland, 50s. to 60s.; Irish, 30s. to 62s.; Westphalia, 44s. to 50s.
Butter, per cwt.—Carlisle, 1st, 76s. to 82s.; Waterford, 1st, 68s. to 72s.; Dutch Friesland, 88s. to 90s.; Limerick, 1st, 65s. to 72s.	Mutton, per 8 lbs., 2s. 8d. to 3s. 2d.
Cheese, per cwt., Cheshire, 50s. to 70s.; Wiltshire, double, 40s. to 44s.; Dutch, new Gouda, 26s. to 29s.; American, 38s. to 44s.	Pork, per 8 lbs., 2s. 8d. to 3s. 4d.; American, new, per barrel, 46s. to 55s.
	Potatoes, per ton.—Kent and Essex Ware, 43s. to 76s.; Kent and Essex Middling, 25s. to 40s.

GROCERY.—LATEST

Cocoa, per cwt. in bond. Ord to good red Trinidad, 34s. to 46s.; Brazil, 25s. to 28s.	WHOLESALE PRICES.
Coffee, per cwt. in bond.—Good ord., native Ceylon, 38s. 6d. to 72s.; Mocha, 76s. to 86s.; St. Domingo, 37s. to 40s.; Sumatra, 35s. to 40s.	Sago, per cwt. in bond.—Pearl, 15s. to 17s.
Rice, per cwt.—Bengal mid. to fine white, 9s. to 11s.; Madras, 7s. 6d. to 9s.	Sugar, per cwt.—Jamaica, 29s. to 35s.; Mauritius, brown, 24s. to 37s.; Brazil, 26s. to 40s.
	Tea, per lb. in bond.—Ord. Congou, 8d. to 1s. 3d.; Sou-chong, com. to fine, 8d. to 1s. 1d.; ord. to fine Hyson, 1s. 1d. to 3s.; Imperial, 1s. 3d. to 2s. 4d.

Candles, per 12 lbs. 4s. 6d. to 5s.

Pale Seal, per 252 gals., 32l.
Sperm, 84l. to 86l.
Cod, 32l.

OILS.

Olive, Gallipoli, 42l. to 43l.
Lined, 27l.

